MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 FEBRUARY 1981

Egypt

As-Sadat Press Conference--President Anwar as-Sadat, speaking at a press conference held jointly with Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, repeated his call for a Palestinian government-in-exile which, he said, would free the Palestinians from Syrian and Soviet "pressures." In their remarks, broadcast live by Cairo radio, both As-Sadat and Kreisky agreed that the Palestinians themselves must organize such a government-in-exile through their own decisions. Noting Yasir 'Arafat's importance as the leader of Fatah, which constitutes "80 percent" of the PLO, As-Sadat said he is not suggesting anyone else as a "substitute" for 'Arafat but called on the Palestinians to choose a leader who will not be "hesitant" nor be one "who agrees today and denies tomorrow." This is "not something against 'Arafat at all," he said, but went on to assert that all PLO members have a right to challenge 'Arafat's legitimacy. Noting that Egypt did not sever relations with the rest of the Arab world, As-Sadat said that Arab leaders will be welcome in Cairo. He added, however, that he is not prepared to "go anywhere" to meet them and will not ask for a meeting with them.

Regarding tripartite negotiations with Israel and the United States, As-Sadat said that just as the U.S. election campaign delayed further talks last year, the most practical course now is to wait until after the Israeli elections, when the Israeli Government will "play its role." The Egyptian leader reiterated his belief that the Camp David framework still forms the "cornerstone of peace" and the basis of a "comprehensive solution" for the Middle East. Neither the Palestinians nor Jordan's King Husayn, he indicated, should participate in negotiations until after the autonomy accord has been signed. As-Sadat also revealed that the possibility of Egypt's acquiring Austrian light tanks was discussed in his meetings with Chancellor Kreisky and noted that the Egyptian defense minister will visit Austria to pursue the matter.

Syrian-Jordanian Relations

Damascus radio reported that President Hafiz al-Asad and other Syrian leaders received a 12-man Jordanian "popular delegation." Following the meeting, during which Al-Asad explained and clarified Syria's political stand, the delegation members expressed hope that Syria will continue to exert efforts to locate the kidnapped Jordanian charge d'affaires. Al-Asad promised that Syria will do this, not only for humanitarian reasons but also Syria is interested in clarifying the circumstances surrounding the kidnapping.

In an interview carried by the radio, delegation member Hamad al-Farhan, a former Jordanian minister, said that he realizes the Syrian president does not condone such acts and noted that in their meeting Al-Asad stressed that neither the Syrian Arab Deterrent Forces in Lebanon nor other Syrian organizations were connected with the abduction of the diplomat. Another delegation member described the kidnappers as "elements whose affiliation is unknown." The Amman English-language paper JORDAN TIMES noted that the delegation, though unofficial, was received with full honors.

Despite the visit of the Jordanian delegation, an unattributed Damascus radio commentary criticized Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran for plotting to undermine Syria's "coordination and unity experiment" with Jordan. The radio stressed that Syria is still committed to and proud of its stand on Arab unity. The commentary also noted that Syria has no wish to harm Jordanian "citizens and brothers" and will maintain an open border to them.

Syria

Voice of Lebanon radio reported that after 8 Syrian soldiers were killed in a 15 February ambush in Aleppo, 8 Muslim Brotherhood members and around 20 civilians were killed when an army unit surrounded a locality in the city.

Inter-Arab Affairs

PLO-USSR Agreement--The PLO and the Soviet Union concluded a "coordination agreement" during PLO leader 'Arafat's visit to Moscow last year, according to Muhammad ash-Sha'ir, the PLO representative in Moscow. In his remarks, reported by KUNA, Ash-Sha'ir also stated that 'Arafat will visit the Soviet Union soon.

Qaddumi Press Conference--According to a report by the Voice of Palestine radio, PLO Political Department chief Faruq Qaddumi told a press conference in Doha that the time has not yet come to establish a provisional Palestinian government or government-in-exile and that the PLO has "exerted efforts" to begin a dialogue with Jordan. A KUNA report on the conference said that Qaddumi revealed that the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue has made no progress. According to KUNA, Qaddumi criticized the new U.S. administration, claiming that it "works against" Middle East peace, and asserted that the European initiative "serves Israel."

Saudi Arabia

In an interview published by the newspaper AL-JAZIRAH, Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said that there is no reason why Gulf cooperation should not include joint security action to protect the region's oilwells. Asked about rumors of unrest in the country's eastern region, the minister replied that some incidents occurred after the November 1979 takeover of the Grand Mosque in Mecca but have now ceased.

Iran

Khomeyni Speech--Criticizing those who say that the Islamic Republic Government is the same as the shah's monarchy, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni compared the luxurious life style of the shah and his family with the "simple" lifestyle of President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr. In a speech at Hoseyniyeh Jamaran, a recording of which was broadcast by Tehran radio, Khomeyni said the shah wasted the nation's wealth to build "great palaces" and asked if Bani-Sadr owns even one house. Pointing out that Bani-Sadr has placed his life at the service of the nation, Khomeyni asserted that members of the former regime never did so.

Industry Ministry Order--According to a Tehran radio report, the Industry and Mines Ministry called on all ministries, firms and institutions "affiliated with or controlled by" the government to send the organization of Iranian national industries all documents relating to their deposits in U.S. banks, if they have not yet done so, in order that the deposits can be recovered. The ministry added that the publication of its announcement is to be considered a "written order."

Fate of Britons--Speaking in New Delhi, Ayatollah Mohammad 'Ali Khamene'i said that the four Britons imprisoned in Iran have committed "certain crimes" and will be put on trial. According to an AFP report, Khamene'i stated that the government will make the final decision and the four "could be released." Meanwhile, Majlis Deputy Dr Hassan Ayat said that the four will be released if they are innocent. In an interview with the London DAILY TELEGRAM, Dr Ayat added that they would also receive compensation if they were shown to have suffered injury from wrongful detention.

Bani-Sadr Supporters Arrested--Several supporters of President Bani-Sadr were arrested by revolutionary guards, AFP reported, after they disrupted a speech in Tuysarkan by Majlis Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani. Citing a report by the pro-Bani-Sadr newspaper ENQELAB-E ESLAMI, the news agency revealed that four of those arrested were sentenced to whippings and short jail sentences.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Replying to a speech by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn in which he threatened to resume the Iraqi advance against Iran, an unattributed Tehran radio commentary said that the Iraqi regime, "because of its nature," will never be able "to steer the course of the war ... to its own advantage." Accusing Husayn of acting on orders from "his American bosses," the radio asserted that "American imperialism" wants the Iran-Iraq war to end and Husayn wants to find a peaceful solution "to save himself ... from being overthrown." According to Tehran radio, exchanges of artillery fire continued in the Ahvaz, Abadan, Dezful and Susangerd areas, while Iranian forces killed 200 Iraqis in the Gilan-e Gharb region. The radio also claimed that Iranian forces in Khuninshahr destroyed 29 tanks from a tank battalion provided to Iraq by Jordan.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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BAHRAIN

PLO'S FARUQ QADDUMI MEETS WITH AMIR 17 FEB

JN171057 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1020 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] Manama, 17 Feb (GNA)--The Bahraini amir, His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, this morning received Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, who is currently visiting Manama. The meeting was attended by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah, minister of interior, and Wafa Nabhan, director of the PLO office in Bahrain.

Following the meeting Faruq Qaddumi told GNA that he briefed the Bahraini amir on the developments of the Palestine cause, its accomplishments and the situation in south Lebanon in light of continual Israeli aggression against Palestinian camps and Lebanese villages and cities.

The PLO leader said that he briefed his highness on the results of the Nonaligned Foreign Ministers Conference which recently convened in New Delhi, the major topics discussed in the conference and the consultations which took place between Arab countries and other fraternal states to make decisions supporting the fateful Arab issues, particularly the Palestine issue.

Qaddumi said that the Bahraini amir reiterated his country's support for the Palestine cause and the just struggle of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories. He said the amir asserted his country's unlimited support for the Palestinian people in regaining their legitimate rights and their homeland, Palestine, from the Zionist enemy.

Faruq Qaddumi arrived in Manama this morning from Doha on a short visit to Bahrain, as part of his tour of the region's states.

17 Feb Departure

JN171627 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1445 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] Manama, 17 Feb (GNA)--Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, left Manama for Kuwait this afternoon at the end of a short visit of several hours to Bahrain as part of a tour of countries in the area.

During the visit Qaddumi held talks with Bahraini officials on Arab and international developments, particularly those connected with the Palestinian cause.

KUWAIT

PRIME MINISTER COMMENTS ON COOPERATION COUNCIL

LD171217 Kuwait KUNA in English 1004 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] Kuwait, 17 Feb (KUNA)--The Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah said Tuesday that the recently formed Gulf Cooperation Council was not a new grouping or an alliance but a framework for organising constructive cooperation among the member states.

He added that the council aims at protecting the joint legitimate interest of the Arab Gulf countries and at contributing towards world prosperity and welfare.

Shaykh Sa'd told the opening meeting of the second session of the Islamic Chambers of Commerce and Industry that the third Islamic Conference summit held in Mecca recently was a landmark along the way of joint Islamic action and a great contribution in development of Islamic cooperation.

He added "many peoples in the world had covered a long distance on the path of regional cooperation, hence the Islamic countries are in bad need for such cooperation."

He went on to say that strong historic bonds, common interests, the large size of the Islamic world and its integral resources form a strong incentive for creation of an effective Islamic cooperation.

But, in the meantime, he affirmed that the call for Islamic cooperation and solidarity "does not mean an isolation from the rest of the world because this is not a desirable or a possible thing. On the contrary, the Islamic cooperation should work for fostering relations with other countries and peoples on just and equal basis serving our interests and goals", he said.

The Gulf Cooperation Council, he said, was the outcome of a sincere effort aimed at coordinating and developing cooperation already existing between countries having common destiny and history.

The council was formed during a meeting in Riyadh on February 4 by the foreign ministers of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Oman.

The three-day conference is being attended by about one hundred officials comprising presidents and representatives of 25 chambers of commerce and industry and other specialized agencies like the Islamic Conference Organisation, the Islamic Development Bank and the Federation of Arab Chambers of Commerce.

PRIME MINISTER VIEWS IRAQ-IRAN WAR, GULF SECURITY

LD161646 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1514 GMT 16 Feb 81

[Text] Kuwait, 16 Feb (KUNA)--The prime minister of Kuwait, Crown Prince Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, today expressed the hope that the war between Iraq and Iran would end quickly. He places the responsibility for the prolongation of the war on the Iranians.

He told a press conference here that Iraq's attitude to a cease-fire between Kuwait's Gulf neighbors is clear, from both the military and political viewpoints. It is summarized in Iraq's readiness to stop fighting provided its territories are restored.

But Shaykh Sa'd added that the other side imposes conditions that are difficult for Iraq to accept. Iran has declared since September that it rejects a cease-fire with Iraq unless the Iraqis withdraw their forces from the Iranian territories they have occupied. But Iraq has constantly stated that it will never withdraw until Iran accepts Iraq's full rights in the Shatt al-'Arab waterway and returns the three Arab islands it occupied in the Gulf during the late shah's regime.

Shaykh Sa'd expressed the hope that the nonaligned committee and an international envoy appointed by UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim will succeed in resolving the armed conflict between the two countries.

Shaykh Sa'd added that, since the establishment of the Islamic regime in Iran under the leadership of Imam Ayatollah Khomeyni, Kuwait has said that what takes place in that country is an internal affair.

But he described the statements and pronouncements which Iranian officials have kept making as interference in the internal affairs of the Gulf states and an encroachment on the sovereignty and independence of those states.

He added that Kuwait has contacted Iran with regard to those pronouncements and statements but the answer we received was always an apology to the effect that the statements were made by persons with no official status and that Iran aims at continued good relations with the Gulf states, and that it wants those relations to continue both now and in the future.

The Kuwaiti crown prince said that the Cooperation Council formed by Arab Gulf states 12 days ago is not a grouping against anybody else, but is aimed at bringing about more coordination and cooperation among those states.

He added that the council formed by the partnership of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE, Qatar, Bahrain and the Sultanate of Oman is absolutely certain that the strength of the Arab Gulf states lies in the cohesion of those states as well as in continued cooperation in the political, economic, cultural, information fields and in any other areas required by the interest of the region's states.

Shaykh Sa'd said that he is optimistic at the establishment of the council. As to military coordination among the Gulf states, he said that if any of these states becomes subject to any external aggression, we cannot assume the role of onlooker when intervention on our part is requested.

Shaykh Sa'd added that Kuwait is following closely the activity of the great powers and their efforts to ensure a presence in the vital and important Arabian Gulf region.

He added that we cannot give any foreigner the opportunity for interference, either directly or indirectly. I am very optimistic, as I have said, at the establishment of the Cooperation Council. This cooperation will give great impetus and strength to the sister Arab states to adopt stands characterized by great firmness and strength concerning the defense of our Arab nation's issues, especially the Palestine issue.

The crown prince, speaking of the policy of the new U.S. administration and its military movements in the area, said: I have said that with more cooperation among the peoples of the area and with more coordination among them, as well as with more cohesion, we cannot give any opportunity to any state which covets the Gulf, whatever the justification or pretext, to have any presence in the Gulf. The peoples of the area are more aware of their present and future. He added that Kuwait is free to determine the policy it considers to be of benefit, both now and in the future.

PRIME MINISTER VIEWS U.S.-OMAN MILITARY MANEUVERS

LD171206 Kuwait KUNA in English 1111 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] Kuwait, 17 Feb (KUNA)--At his Monday press conference Crown Prince and Premier Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah "did not refer to any of the Arab Gulf states," an informed source said today.

The source ruled out a BBC report quoting correspondents as saying Kuwait's premier had indirectly criticised Oman for organizing joint military maneuvers with the United States last this month.

At the press conference Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah expressed optimism about the formation of the Gulf Cooperation Council and said "in Kuwait, we view the Gulf region as a vital strategic point with immense natural resources and waterways."

The prime minister told the press conference "we are closely observing activities of the big powers and their efforts to create a presence here."

He expressed optimism that the region is aware of developments that require coordination and cooperation. "We will not enable any foreign power to make a direct or indirect interference."

Cooperation between the Gulf states will push forward other Arab states to adopt a strong and firm stand in defending Arab causes," the prime minister told the conference.

COMMENTARY DEPLORES U.S.-OMAN JOINT MANEUVERS

LD161521 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 11 Feb 81 p 1

[Editorial: "U.S. Maneuvers in the Gulf"]

[Text] We do not know, indeed we probably do not understand, why one of the Gulf states, following the announcement of the establishment of a Council for Cooperation between the Arab Gulf states of which it is a member, announced that its forces are to carry out joint maneuvers with U.S. forces.

We tried to find any wisdom in such action, but could not. What shall we say tomorrow if a neighboring Arab country, South Yemen for example, embarks on a similar action between its own and Soviet forces. Are we by so doing indeed serving the security of the area and keeping it away from foreign interference, or are we, through such actions, inviting this kind of interference and opening the door to it, so that in no time we will become the field of a destructive and bloody clash of which we will be the victims? In other words, with such blinding naivety we are bringing elephants to fight on our land while we, frankly, do not have the means to repel the dangers which the elephants present to us. Our fate will be no better than that of the grass on the battlefield.

Moreover, what prompted that state to invite the Americans to military maneuvers on its territory, on the very day after the Gulf council was established?

Does this not call for raising questions and even for saying that certain quarters do not wish this council to survive, to act, and to play its role in protecting the area from the risks of international conflicts?

The Arab voices in the area have bcome hoarse with shouting against the Soviet presence in Afghanistan, which is thousands of miles from the Gulf, allegedly because the Soviets threaten Gulf security and are occupying an Islamic state. But, now that we are publicly opening our territories to U.S. military forces, how can we use double standards in relation to one subject, particularly since we are calling for neutralizing and keeping the major powers away from the area?

Such action is like cutting off one's nose to spite one's face; he brings the Americans to his own house and blames another party for this.

Plainly, people like us who are facing open threats on all fronts cannot afford the luxury of playing hosts to "dangerous guests" such as the American "guest" without indulging in adventure and even gambling with the fate of the whole area, whose security, conditions and circumstances are one and the same.

The Arabs of this area and all the Arabs will be the losers. These Americans frankly declare that they are marching on the area "in order to protect their interests" and without any consideration for our interests.

Therefore, it is our duty to defend our interests, at least as much as the Americans are enthusiastic about defending theirs.

If there is any contradiction--and indeed there is--between our interests and U.S. interests, then our interests should be placed above the U.S. interests.

Furthermore, this announcement, plus the U.S. announcement about bases and facilities in Somalia, means certain death for the Afghan cause. It will also make the Soviet Union cling hard to Afghanistan. This is an obvious fact. Therefore, with such actions we will destroy the hope of Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan and consolidate the Soviet presence there. This is something that the West no doubt wants, because it is not in the least interested in the Afghanistan problem except insofar as it serves its influence in the Gulf region and in the Arab area as far as the Horn of Africa.

It is strange that we appear not to understand this. But do we really not? We do not think so. The painful fact is that some of us know well what they are doing but do not care--which is the tragedy.

OMAN

QABUS RECEIVES U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

LD172018 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Feb 81 EA

[Text] At 1230 today His Majesty Sultan Qabus received Senator John Tower, chairman of the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee, in the royal tented camp. The meeting was attended by His Excellency Qais 'Abd al-Munim Zawawi, minister of state for foreign affairs; His Excellency Lt Col 'Ali Majid, the military adviser to his majesty the sultan; and his excellency the U.S. ambassador accredited to the Sultanate.

UN SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM ARRIVES 18 FEB

JN181029 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1020 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Text] Muscat, 18 Feb (GNA)--UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim arrived in Muscat this morning on a 2-day visit to Oman. He will hold talks with Omani officials and exchange views on several international issues.

UK'S DOUGLAS HURD ARRIVES IN MUSCAT 18 FEB

JN180747 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0720 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Text] Douglas Hurd, British minister of state for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, arrived in Muscat this morning on a 3-day visit to Oman.

He will hold talks with Omani officials on bilateral relations, current international developments and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's April visit to Oman as part of a tour of the area.

MINISTER OF STATE COMMENTS ON REGIONAL COOPERATION

LD131112 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0720 GMT 13 Feb 81

[Text] Riyadh, 13 Feb (SPA)--Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Qais 'Abd al-Munim Zawawi has stressed that cooperation among the Gulf states is one of their national rights and is not inconsistent with the provisions of international charters and conventions. Moreover, the Arab League Charter encourages regional cooperation aimed at strengthening the Arab nation. Zawawi said the Riyadh agreement among the six Gulf stages is not against anyone but is in the interests of the states of the region and in the interests of all.

In a statement to AL-YAMAMAH magazine which it published today, Zawawi said the preparations for the Riyadh meeting of the six Gulf states began at the Amman summit and that consultations and contacts among the Gulf states continued. He said that the discussion at the Riyadh meeting only dealt with economic and social cooperation. As to other topics, these will be left until later when consultations will take place on those matters.

Qais Zawawi said that a meeting of the foreign ministers of the Gulf states will be held in Muscat on 8 March and that two meetings of experts will be held on 24 February and 4 March to review the subjects agreed upon at the Riyadh meeting in connection with the establishment of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

He stressed that there were no Arab or foreign forces on Omani territory, nor American or Soviet bases. Moreover, the security and stability of the region stems from the collective cooperation of its stages and from their keeping the region away from the conflicts of the great powers. He expressed his country's growing concern over the continuation of the Iraqi-Iranian war which is not in the interests of the two states nor in the interests of the region. Moreover, it will not resolve the situation, which can only be achieved through dialogue, [words indistinct] and peaceful means.

QATAR

FOREIGN MINISTRY DELEGATION RETURNS FROM NEW DELHI

JN132049 Doha QNA in Arabic 2037 GMT 13 Feb 81

[Excerpt] Doha, 13 Feb (QNA)--Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs, and his delegation returned to Doha from New Delhi after leading Qatar's delegation to the meetings of the Nonaligned Foreign Ministers Conference, which ended its work tonight.

SAUDI ARABIA

IRANIAN DELEGATION ARRIVES WITH RAJA'I MESSAGE

LD161142 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1110 GMT 16 Feb 81

[Text] Jidda, 16 Feb (SPA)--Deputy Speaker of the Iranian Parliament Hojjat ol-Eslam Hoseyn Haqqani arrived in Jidda at noon today with a written message from Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i to Deputy Prime Minister and Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

He was welcomed at the airport by Saudi Foreign Under Secretary for Political Affairs Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman Mansuri, commander of the western region Gen Mansur ash-Shu'aybi, chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry Salim Sunbul, head of the eastern desk at the Foreign Ministry 'Abbas Ghazzawi, Iranian Charge d'Affaires in Jidda Engineer Nehavandian and a representative of the royal protocol department.

In a statement to SPA on his arrival, Haqqani said that he bears a written message from Iranian Prime Minister Raja'i to Prince Fahd. He added that his visit falls within the framework of Iranian efforts to explain Iran's policy and the facts about the Iranian-Iraqi war. He added that he will discuss with officials in the kingdom a number of issues of interest to the Arab and Islamic worlds and relations between the two countries.

Meeting With Official

GF171856 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] Foreign Ministry Under Secretary for Political Affairs 'Abd Rahman Mansuri today met with Hojjat ol-Eslam Hoseyn Haqqani, the Iranian Majlis deputy speaker who is currently visiting Saudi Arabia.

Shaykh Mansuri said that during the meeting he received the message from Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i to the crown prince and deputy prime minister. He added that they discussed bilateral relations. The Iranian official reviewed his country's view on the Iraqi-Iranian war.

MINISTER DISCUSSES INTERNAL SITUATION, SECURITY

GF161000 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 14 Feb 81 p 7

[Interview granted by Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz in his office to Ahmad al-Jarallah, chief editor of Kuwait's AS-SIYASAH, and published in both AS-SIYASAH and AL-JAZIRAH--date of interview not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Your highness, what is the role of the Interior Ministry in Saudi Arabia, and what is its philosophy?

Answer: The Interior Ministry here has a role that differs from the role of interior ministries in other countries. The Interior Ministry in other countries implies mysteries, closed doors, unresting and observant eyes and the police force. The Interior Ministry here represents open doors ready to deal with public issues at any time. The Saudi citizen has human beings before him to deal with and not mere laws and rules. The usual role of the Interior Ministry is to safeguard public and private rights and to investigate and treat crimes when they occur. The situation here is different. The Interior Ministry here deals with people's questions that may occur in the future, such as family and individual problems. Our society is different from the other societies. Thus, our ministry is not a ministry of secrets. Everything is open and exposed. I have been trying to reach the stage where the citizen himself will cooperate with the system and in particular with the Interior Ministry, which is in charge of safeguarding the security and peace of the country and also of safeguarding the public and private rights of citizens.

Question: Your Highness, during the Islamic Conference Summit, some people were talking about security incidents. Have you anything to say on this matter?

Answer: To be honest with you, by virtue of the importance of the conference and the importance of its figures, we did expect some security violations to occur and were extremely alert. However, the Saudi security force did not report any abnormal incidents when the Islamic leaders were in Al-Ka'bah or when they were in At-Ta'if. On the contrary, we noticed that the normal daily crimes and incidents were markedly reduced during the Islamic Conference Summit.

Question: Your Highness, speaking of the Gulf Cooperation Council, there are differences between the systems and regimes of the Gulf states and Saudi Arabia. Will you follow them, or will they follow you in implementing security laws and jurisdictions?

Answer: We did not have contacts with the Gulf states on the subject of Gulf security cooperation prior to the declaration of the Gulf cooperation project in which we have participated.

Today more than ever before, we realize that contacts with the Gulf sister states are more serious and more effective. The evidence is the recent meeting of Gulf ministers. Our intention is to establish complete cooperation in all fields--political, economic, security, unity of jurisdictions--on the basis that the Islamic shari'ah is the fundamental source of our legislation and system. We have discussed this matter not only with regard to the Gulf states, but also as a plan to establish the Islamic shari'ah as the legislative source for all systems and laws, as was discussed in the recent meeting attended by all Arab interior ministers.

However, with regard to Gulf cooperation, we have noticed a delay from the practical point of view in spite of our belief that all intentions are good and that basically no one wishes to impose a certain procedure. We are all searching for the best principles that accord with our traditions and the values of our Islamic religion.

Question: Your Highness, petroleum is the lifeblood of this region. Do you believe a joint Gulf security action can be adopted in order to protect oil wells in the Gulf states?

Answer: Petroleum is, no doubt, the region's only wealth. Such an action--whether it is an internal security strategy or a defense strategy--must be adopted, assuming that there is a united strategy among the Gulf states. I see no reason why a joint security action should not exist within the framework of a Gulf cooperation plan that includes the economy, a united political stand, military defense cooperation and other issues. However, this action must not indulge in greater serious plans. Yes, there can be joint security to prevent threats to oil wells such as sabotage and to organize the security of wells and their sites. All this is possible, and we have been cooperating satisfactorily on information.

Question: Your Highness, how true are the rumors being propagated in Western circles that there is frequent unrest in the eastern region?

Answer: There were some incidents following the incidents at the sacred mosque. However, these incidents were treated immediately and nothing is occurring now. The West and its press have much to say about this matter. Even Arab papers are talking about it. The region is open, and several hundred thousand people enter or leave the kingdom daily. No restrictions are placed on internal traffic, which is also free. If we had anything to hide, it would certainly be exposed by those who continuously enter and leave the kingdom. We have refuted such rumors several times, but it seems that some of them are intentional. Therefore, there is no point in answering them. We hope such people will follow their consciences at least for the sake of attaining a clean press.

Question: Your highness, following the incident at the mosque and after those involved had been punished, do you believe the issue has ended, or are there certain repercussions that may influence the future?

Answer: Those who opposed the state have been punished, but those who were no more than deceived followers have been placed in the true picture of true Islam. This is certainly not what those who violated the sacred mosque followed. There was another group consisting of those who supported the intruders. These people were questioned and referred to the juridical authority for a final judgment. When you mention repercussions, I suppose you mean the presence of a large number of followers in Saudi Arabia. As far as we are concerned, this matter has been settled. We said earlier that the members of this organization were all known to us. Their organization did not worry us. However, when they carried out an operation that violated the regime they had to be punished. The organization did not have many members, and no repercussions are expected.

Question: Your Highness, do you believe that this organization has an extension in the Gulf countries, and how great is its threat?

Answer: Yes, there are members of this organization in the Gulf countries, including Kuwait, but as I have said, they are not large in number. I think it would be beneficial if these people have a correct idea of true Islam, for true Islam is not in the form that is advocated by these people.

Question: Since 1952 the Saudi ruling family has been facing a media campaign directed against it. Nevertheless, it has survived such campaigns. Do you believe this is a result of its security measures or the result of specific social reasons?

Answer: it is not sufficient to be good; goodness has to coupled with strength. It is also not sufficient to be strong but corrupt. The Saudi family has been able to face all threats because it has social roots. Ever since God willed that it assumed power in this country, the Saudi family has felt that it is part of the base of this society, and not a superstructure that dispenses orders and behaves arrogantly.

Question: Saudi civil aviation accidents have persisted. There are those who connect such accidents with incidents that undermine the country's security and claim that they are someone's doing.

Answer: If these accidents had been the result of sabotage or attempts to undermine security, we would have said so. We are a state that has rights and duties. However, these accidents were the result of technical causes and had no connection with sabotage, disturbances or attempts to undermine security. We have reached the stage in which we do not hesitate to announce everything openly. There is nothing hidden in our country, and therefore we do not hide what happens.

Question: What is your information about the security situation in the Gulf countries? Do you think it is satisfactory?

Answer: It is true that I am a Saudi citizen, but I am also a Gulf citizen in view of the social ties that link us. These countries are open countries. There is no harm in the immigration that is taking place to these countries and whose purpose is to earn a living. Our only desire is that they do not become an arena for those whose objectives go beyond earning a living and leading a quiet life. Hence we shall have increased consultations within the framework of Gulf cooperation. My heart is always with my brothers in these countries because I am one of them.

Question: There have been reports that this area has become a site for the absorption of large quantities of smuggled arms. Do you believe this has any political significance?

Answer: The nature of society in the Arabian Peninsula is that people consider the carrying of arms a sign of manhood. People carry arms. Arms smuggling has increased since the Yemen war in the 1960's and the Lebanese war later on. As I have said, people carry arms but do not use them because the firing of arms is not allowed. We are about to draw up regulations for the carrying and sale of arms. These regulations will be governed by criminal legislation and will put an end to smuggling. Arms smuggling in Saudi Arabia is due to the high rate of profit. We have uncovered smuggling operations from European countries and directly from the arms factories. The arms involved are, of course, light arms together with their ammunition. As to the question of whether this matter has any political significance, this is possible if there are disturbances. But it is also useful for civilian defense. We combat the smuggling of arms but there are things that are out of our control. When the new regulations become valid we shall put an end to smuggling.

Question: It is said that your prisons are full of people convicted of drug addiction. How serious is this phenomenon?

Answer: As you know, the drug industry has developed and drugs are now taken in the form of pills. We are hard on drug merchants and drug pushers but we consider those who take drugs as sick people who need treatment. During the pilgrimage season we arrest a number of people who carry drugs in the form of pills. We destroy the pills and allow the person who carries them to complete his pilgrimage and then send him home. Those who have been imprisoned are not as many as you indicate. But as I have said, we treat the drug merchant differently from the drug pusher and the latter differently from the drug addict.

Question: Your Highness, have your border disputes with the YAR and PDRY been settled or do they still exist?

Answer: With regard to the YAR, there are some parts that are about to be demarcated, and then the matter will have ended. As for the PDRY, our expectations are good, God willing.

INFORMATION MINISTER ON IRAN-IRAQ, GULF SECURITY

GF171736 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 16 Feb 81 p 7

['Awad al-Qahtani interview with Saudi Information Minister Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani--date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Question: What is your view on the current crisis between Iraq and Iran? Is it true there is a Saudi-Pakistani mediation effort to resolve this crisis?

Answer: The war between Iraq and Iran, two Muslim countries, is a wound in the Islamic body. If any part of this body is weak or sick, all the other parts watch over and take care of it. [sentence based on quotation of Muhammad] No Muslim wants this war to continue and exhaust the strength of two fraternal peoples, destroying achievemtns which cost them a great deal of effort and money spent over many years. Actually the call for mediation to end this war was first made by the Islamic Conference Organization. A committee was formed under the chairmanship of President Ziaul Haq and visited the two countries. Although the committee has not been successful so far, it has not lost hope. It will continue to look for ways to stop the war, end the bloodshed, and resolve the dispute by peaceful means and in a manner that safeguards the rights of the two sides.

You probably recall that the third Islamic Conference summit held recently in Riyadh resolved to form an expanded committee to continue the efforts and good offices to end the war between the two Muslim countries and to achieve a peaceful solution that brings about peace and fraternity between them and spares them the woes of war.

[Question] The tension in Syrian-Jordanian relations was reduced prior to the kidnapping of the Jordanian charge d'affaires in Beirut, thanks to the Saudi initiative. What is your comment on this, and have the differences between the two fraternal countries been resolved finally?

[Answer] Saudi Arabia is anxious to unite ranks and resolve the differences between the two fraternal countries. Only the enemy can benefit from such disputes. I hope no transient incident will affect improved relations between the two countries. The resolution of problems and disputes through peaceful means and understanding is the best way to ward off all that could harm our nation and to frustrate our common enemy.

[Question] What is your comment on Gulf security, particularly since the threats to the area are reflected in one way or another on the security situation in these fraternal countries?

[Answer] The security situation in the Gulf region is stable. This stability stems from the close ties between the Gulf's peoples and rulers--ties based on Islam and the wisdom of the leaders of the Gulf countries. All that is required of others, and especially the great powers, is to stop interfering in Gulf affairs so that this vital and sensitive area can contribute to the world's prosperity and stability.

[Question] How are Saudi Arabia's current relations with its neighbors, particularly North and South Yemen?

[Answer] Saudi Arabia's relations with all fraternal Arab countries are good and firm, thank God. Saudi Arabia is anxious to strengthen its fraternal relations with all Arab countries, including both parts of Yemen, particularly as they are two neighboring countries. Saudi Arabia spares no effort in cooperating with the two parts of Yemen in all fields.

[Question] How do you view the future of Saudi-U.S. relations in light of President Reagan's election?

[Answer] Relations between Saudi Arabia and the United States are friendly and based on the common interests of two peoples and not on individuals. We shall deal truthfully and objectively with the President elected by the American people, whoever that President may be. We welcome cooperation with President Reagan in the interest of the two countries, the just causes of the Arab and Muslim nation, and world peace.

[Question] How do you view the future of peace and security in the Gulf region in general, and in the Arab Gulf countries in particular, particularly in light of past reports on the possibility of an external military intervention to protect the Gulf--and especially in view of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and that country's proximity to the Gulf?

[Answer] The Gulf countries are capable of continuing to carry out their responsibilities and maintain their security with their own resources. They do not need alliances, nor do they need to enter into spheres of influence. The countries of the world should unite their efforts to bring about a Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan by all possible means, especially as the Muslim Afghan people are struggling to drive the Soviet invaders away from their land.

[Question] Is it time to have a code of honor for those who work in the information field in the Muslim countries so that their work springs from tolerant Islam?

[Answer] The question of a code of honor for those working in the information field in the Muslim countries is not everything, because the basic pillar in Islamic information is to uphold the lofty and ethical principles of the Koran and the Sunna. This is absolutely the best code.

PDRY

'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD LEAVES FOR ETHIOPIA 13 FEB

LD131606 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 13 Feb 81 EA

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and prime minister, left Aden at 1430 today for Addis Ababa at the start of an official friendly visit to socialist Ethiopia in response to an invitation from Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the PMAC, commander in chief of the Ethiopian Revolutionary Army and chairman of the Council of Ministers of socialist Ethiopia. Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad is accompanied on his visit by a number of brother party and state officials.

On leaving Aden international airport, Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his delegation were seen off by a number of brother members of the Political Bureau and Central Committee, ministers and senior party and state officials.

Today's AR-RABI ASHAR MIN UKTUBAR newspaper stressed that the visit of Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, to the socialist republic of Ethiopia is of great significance because it is linked to the increasing dangers witnessed in the area. Its importance is that it follows our country's initiative--Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's call for an urgent summit conference of countries of the Peninsula and the Gulf and countries bordering on the Red Sea with the aim of safeguarding security and stability in the area.

In today's editorial the paper pointed out that the history of relations between Democratic Yemen and socialist Ethiopia, which were crowned by the Ethiopia-Yemen treaty of friendship, is a shining example of equal relations between the states of our area.

The paper (?said) the visit will be a new milestone on the road of coordinating joint stands in these critical and dangerous circumstances, (?pointing out) what is going on, namely the intensification of the American concentration of troops (?in the Arabian Gulf) and its obtaining facilities and bases in some countries (?in the area). [passage indistinct]

The paper pointed out that by this, Washington aims at diverting attention from the Camp David conspiracy. Hence it has carried out preparatory operations and aggressive maneuvers in the territories of Oman and Somalia.

The paper stressed that Democratic Yemen and socialist Ethiopia will exert all their efforts and energies to remove the centers of danger which threaten the security and peace of the area and the world.

Concluding its editorial it warned those who think that they are able to suppress the voice of the people, saying the territory of Democratic Yemen and socialist Ethiopia will blaze under the feet of the invaders.

YAR

SPOKESMAN CONDEMNS ATTACK ON PDRY PARIS EMBASSY

JN162102 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 16 Feb 81

[Text] An official spokesman of the Foreign Ministry has declared that the YAR strongly condemns and denounces the criminal attack on the Paris Embassy of the southern part of the homeland. He asserted that this blatant aggression is considered a link in the chain of the Israeli-Zionist design to spread terror throughout the world by attacking the principles of freedom and the sovereignty of international norms and rules as well as violating diplomatic immunity.

He emphasized that this attack exposes to world public opinion the close links between terrorism and Zionism on one side and, on the other, the world Zionist terrorism and the daily criminal Israeli aggressions against the Arab nation in usurped Palestine and southern Lebanon.

The official spokesman also stressed that this criminal attack constitutes aggression against the entire Yemeni people in the two parts of the Yemeni homeland as well as against the Arab nation. This aggression, he added, is an extension of the Israeli-Zionist aggression against the Arab nation and world peace and stability.

In conclusion, he said: While we reject and condemn all forms of terrorism, criminal and violations of international norms and rules and world peace, we pledge to exert efforts, in coordination with the brothers in the southern part of the homeland, to identify the criminals and to punish them in accordance with international norms. We do so to preserve the Yemeni people's status and integrity.

PRESIDENT SALIH RECEIVES ETHIOPIAN DELEGATION

JN142128 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 14 Feb 81

[Text] President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, commander in chief of the armed forces, has received the Ethiopian delegation headed by Col Tesfaye Wolde Selassie, member of the Central Committee of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE] and minister of public and national security, who arrived in San'a' this afternoon. He delivered a message to President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih from Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] in Ethiopia. The meeting was attended by [name indistinct], minister of state for people's constituent assembly affairs, and [name indistinct], head of the central department for national security.

MATERIALS ON END OF AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR'S VISIT

Joint Press Conference

NC171240 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Press conference held in 'Abidin Palace in Cairo by President Anwar as-Sadat and Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky at the conclusion of their talks--live, in English with superimposed simultaneous translation]

[Text] [As-Sadat] In the name of God. I want to say a few words before the press conference. It was really a happy occasion for me personally and for the Egyptian people to meet with Chancellor Kreisky, who is greatly respected by us as one of the great leaders of the world who has the issue of peace in his heart. What he does in Europe he also does in the Middle East and the Gulf. The fate of man in all these places is the same.

I seize this opportunity to ask him to convey to the Austrian people, our dear friends there, our thanks for the understanding and assistance which we have received from them. I again seize the opportunity to ask him to convey to the Austrian people our best wishes for further achievements and prosperity and to convey my promise that I can never let the Austrian people down at all. Thank you very much.

[Question] Mr President, I understand that some proposals were made by the Austrian side for the supply of light tanks to the Egyptian Army. Have they made any technical offers, and can such tanks be absorbed by the Egyptian Army?

[As-Sadat] As a matter of fact, we discussed this matter 2 days ago. We had the banquet here, and the defense minister was with us. Chancellor Kreisky thankfully suggested inviting the defense minister, and I immediately agreed. When this invitation is received from the Austrian defense minister, he will visit Austria to see for himself, although my defense minister obtained some good data on these tanks when he attended a parade in Tunis.

[Question] In an answer you gave last Sunday regarding a Palestinian government-in-exile you said all PLO parties and the representatives of the Palestinians in the various states can sit together to study the issue of such a provisional government. Mr President, don't you think that you have changed your position on the fact that the PLO is the sole representative of the Palestinian people?

[Answer] Let me be quite frank with you. My proposal, as I have told you, was not an emotional feeling that I had at the time. Quite the opposite. That was my proposal to the Palestinian Council when they met at the Arab League in Cairo in 1973. In that proposal I said that as soon as a Palestinian Government is formed the Egyptian Government would recognize it. This happened in 1973. That session of the Palestinian National Council was attended by all the PLO members. I repeat this so that they will be rid of the pressures of Syria and the Soviet Union. Deep down they know this. They are being sacrificed. They are sacrificing. I would like to save them from this.

As for the second part of your question, which is what is the benefit of the PLO, and whether it represents all the Palestinian people and whether it is the sole representative of the Palestinian people, I say: How can this be when they cannot make a decision? The chairman of the organization is a compromise chairman who does not take the issue of the Palestinian people into his own hands. This is what I mean. When he cannot take matters into his own hands, he will receive many objections from other Palestinian leaders when he makes a decision. I told you before that this happened often when he used to approve certain matters and announce them together with me and with Prince Fahd in Saudi Arabia and others. The next moment, when Syria or the Soviet Union would object or intervene, he used to deny all that. Therefore, I called for such a provisional government in order to save them from Syrian and Soviet pressures.

[Question] Mr President, the Israelis have called for the resumption of the autonomy negotiations now. Can this take place while you are calling for a Palestinian provisional government at present? I would like to receive an answer to the same question from Chancellor Kreiksy.

[As-Sadat] Resuming the negotiations now has nothing to do with the provisional government I have proposed. My opinion is that the time is not suitable now for any other parties to join these autonomy negotiations for a very simple reason: We are not deciding anything with regard to the Palestinian issue or the substance of the Palestinian problem.

The autonomy negotiations include ending the Israeli military occupation and the Israeli civilian government with a 5-year transitional period. After 3 years of this period we will sit with the Palestinians to determine their fate. This, therefore, is not related to that.

[Question] Does the chancellor wish to comment on this and give his own view now?

[Kreisky] I learned about President as-Sadat's idea about a Palestinian government-in-exile only in the past 2 days. The idea is new to me but I believe that any representation of a people partially in exile and partially under military occupation can be achieved through a compromise solution among the various parties concerned living under different conditions. I believe that Mr 'Arafat can be part of this compromise process. On the other hand, I believe this question whether this government--I agree with the president on many aspects, but the decision regarding such a government must come from the Palestinians themselves. I believe that the decisionmaking should be through the existing institutions. I personally have no personal opinion on this. I believe that the decision should be made through the existing institutions. I agree with President as-Sadat on many aspects, but I am an outsider and I cannot make the decision.

[Question] Mr President, could you explain to us in more detail your proposal regarding a Palestinian government-in-exile. Will it be from within the Palestinian National Council. You say that 'Arafat is a compromise leader of this council. Can you put forward or suggest another name for this matter?

[As-Sadat] I quite agree with the idea put forward by my dear friend Chancellor Kreisky, namely that the decision on this matter should come from the Palestinians themselves. Let me tell you that 'Arafat is the leader of the biggest organization in the PLO structure. He is the leader of Fatah which comprises 80 percent of the PLO. I am not suggesting anyone else as a substitute at all, but I say let us let the mechanics and the fabrics of the PLO come up with a leader who can take his own cause into his own hands. One who can do this through his council--a leader who will not be hesitant or one who agrees today and denies tomorrow. This is not something against 'Arafat at all. As I have told you, 'Arafat is the leader of the biggest organization, representing more than 80 percent of the PLO.

[Question] Can you answer Israel's charge that this attitude of yours if not in line with Camp David?

[As-Sadat] I do not agree at all.

[Question] How will the leaders of Gaza and the West Bank participate in this process. Do you believe that the Palestinians living in these areas are more important than the Palestinians living in exile?

[As-Sadat] Let me repeat what I said before. I agree with Chancellor Kreisky that it should be left to the Palestinians to decide among themselves: But let me tell you this: The West Bank and Gaza are not empty of the PLO. Some of the mayors who were elected under the Israeli occupation were representatives of the PLO; Israel knows this. We know it; so there is a PLO presence there in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

[Question] Why have you basically decided not to continue negotiating with the Begin government until after the elections.

[As-Sadat] I have never said this at all.

[Question] AL-AHRAM said that it is generally understood that there will no further negotiations until after the elections. Do you believe that this is the case?

[As-Sadat] Well, I think that it is a very simple matter of practicality that whenever a government is busy preparing for elections they will not be ready for such negotiations, like the situation we faced before the U.S. elections. We all agreed to wait until the elections take place and then the United States will be able to resume its own role. It is the same idea now: Let us wait until after the Israeli elections and then the Israeli Government will play its role.

[Question] When Mr Begin complained that your call for the establishment of a government-in-exile is not compatible with the spirit of Camp David this meant that Camp David is considered a framework through which we can establish a Palestinian Government. Thus, some doubts have begun to appear concerning the Camp David framework as a basis for the establishment of a Palestinian Government while you are demanding the formation of a government in exile outside the Camp David framework at this late stage. Will this not cause some confusion?

[As-Sadat] Absolutely not. I have said in Europe and I am repeating that Camp David forms the cornerstone of peace in the area and for a comprehensive solution. I have absolutely no doubt regarding this, but my proposal is not new. It is an old proposal, and every day I feel that this should have taken place when I proposed it. This would have facilitated a great deal for them and for all of us.

[Question] You seem to be saying that you do not deny or do not rule out that Yasir 'Arafat should be head of this government-in-exile and that you agree that he should be part of it.

[As-Sadat] I do not have any right to include or exclude 'Arafat. This is the right of the Palestinians. What I am demanding is a head who can take decisions and to take the Palestinian issue in to his hands. It is up to them to decide this.

[Question] You are challenging his legitimacy?

[As-Sadat] Yes, all the members of the PLO have a right to this.

[Question] Mr Chancellor, perhaps you are close enough to the leaders of the Labor Party in Israel to give us an estimation of their possible viewpoint--is it up to the expectations of the world concerning their handling of the coming stage of negotiations?

[Answer] I am not in the best position to answer this question. It is difficult for me to interpret the political developments in Israel. However, as much as I understand the issue, I believe that if there is a change, for example in the direction of a Labor-guided government, it will be an important political change because the two camps [Likud and Labor Party] differ very much about, for example, the question of whether Israel should include 1,300,000 Arabs. As much as I know about the program of the Labor Party, the Labor Party does not want Israel to include 1,300,000 Palestinian Arabs. Therefore, I believe something would have to be done regarding the 1,300,000 Arabs and the lands on which they are living. There is a great difference between the philosophies of the two Israeli camps. I do not favor one leader or another. I can only say that there is a great difference between the two camps.

[Question] What ideas you have in your mind since the differences began in Israel in 1978?

[Kreisky] I believe that the major outcome of the Vienna talks between Willy Brandt, Yasir 'Arafat and myself was that the talks had influenced the change of mind in Western Europe, in democratic Europe. We cannot ignore the tremendous difference between the attitude of the European governments of today and what this attitude was 1 or 2 years ago. There is no doubt that there is a lot of understanding now inside the democratic governments of Europe about the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination. There is a new view regarding the PLO in its capacity as the representative of the Palestinian people; as a movement and not a government of course. This constitutes some obstacles. I believe there is a significant change also in respect of the United States. As far as internal relations and developments among the Palestinians, I am more skeptical.

I think the official political view of nearly all parties in Israel is that they are refusing to deal with the PLO. But I feel that they are aware of the fact that the PLO exists in the West Bank. When they come to discuss the future of the Palestinian people in the West Bank, they must take into account that there are those who represent the PLO. This is a very important factor. I would like to add one personal remark. When I started to discuss this matter inside the framework of the Socialist International parties, when I talked about an opening on the Arab world, Golda Meir told me: There are no Palestinians. The Arabs have never recognized the existence of the Palestinian people. Allon once said to me after long deliberations: Yes, I will recognize there is a Palestinian people. In this case, Israel consists of two peoples, the Israel and Palestinian peoples. This constituted a certain progress. At last, no dout when we talk about the Palestinians in the presence of the Israelis, there is no doubt that the Palestinian people exist. Therefore, there is recognition now that the Palestinian people exist. Perhaps, we have achieved a great deal in this direction. This is considered an achievement that has taken place in the past 10 years.

[Question] Mr President, under what conditions would you agree to meet with Saudi or Palestinian leaders?

[As-Sadat] I want to elaborate on what my dear friend Chancellor Kreisky said regarding the Palestinians and the late Mrs Meir. In my speech to the Palestinian Council in 1973 I mentioned that Prime Minister Meir denied that the word Palestine existed in history, and that therefore I said: I ask you to set up your provisional government. To answer your question, I say that we did not sever relations with the Arabs, with my colleagues in the Arab World. They did. If they choose to come here, then Cairo will welcome them, but I am not prepared to go anywhere to meet them and I am not prepared to ask for a meeting with them. If they wish to contact us then let them come to Cairo.

[Question] I have a brief question regarding what Chancellor Kreisky and you said about 'Arafat. I believe that the main factor regarding the PLO is a compromise solution. You have yourself said, Mr President, that the main factor is the ability to make decisions. Are you saying that this constitutes a point of difference between you and Chancellor Kreisky?

[Answer] Let me tell you this. Everyone is entitled to express his ideas. I do not want you or anyone else to feel that there is anything personal between me and Yasir 'Arafat. Not at all. I am just asking that anyone at the head of the PLO, like me at the head of Egypt, must take his cause into his own hands and must decide for himself. This process should be done through the institutions he has. I am not advocating dictatorial powers for him, absolutely not. I am simply calling for what I have done myself. I took my cause into my own hands within my institutions. We make decisions. I have the ability to make decisions because this is supported by my people, as the case has been to this moment. There is nothing personal at all between me and 'Arafat, and there are no differences between me and my friend Chancellor Kreisky.

[Kreisky] Since the question was addressed to us both, I tried to explain why I believe the PLO was in the past in a difficult position and why the PLO and its chairman, I know, were at a crossroads in the past. However, as far as what should happen to the Palestinian people and their institutions, they should study the matter and come to a conclusion together. I believe that there are many aspects which I agree with but I am not near enough to the problem to be able to make a direct decision. I am not here to make decisions. I am just answering some points of argument. The existing Palestinian institutions should make a decision. Faced with such a proposal, they are no doubt faced with a big decisionmaking process. The Palestinians should realize this fact. At this stage we have no identical ideas or points of view but I understand the motive of President as-Sadat. This is why I said what I did.

[Question] A simple question, Mr President: When you called for the formation of a government-in-exile, did you think of a place for such a government. Can you suggest a place?

[As-Sadat] As I said before, the moment this provisional government is formed we will immediately recognize it, even if it happens today or tomorrow. The moment they set up such a government we will recognize it. I do not at all rule out Cairo. If they choose Cairo we welcome them.

[Question] Tomorrow you will meet with a prominent European personality. Today you have met with a prominent member of Socialist International. Do you see a point of agreement between these bodies?

[As-Sadat] What bodies?

[Question] The European Community and the Socialist International.

[As-Sadat] They are already working together. There is no contradiction between them.

[Question] When you visit the United States and meet with President Carter [as heard] what will be the principal subject you will discuss?

[As-Sadat] Definitely, it will be the peace process. The peace process which we began together--the United States and Egypt--after the October war, when we concluded with Israel the first agreement on disengagement, and the other various phases up to this phase.

[Question] Mr President, do I understand that you are admitting that there are plans for a summit meeting with President Reagan or are you denying this?

[As-Sadat] The plan for a summit was drawn up by him before the U.S. elections--when we reached a deadlock during last summer. My proposition is still valid and I shall discuss it with President Reagan, but I shall ask for the convening of such a meeting before I meet with President Reagan and before we three--Egypt, Israel and the United States--prepare ourselves for it. [sentence as heard]

[Question] Can you prepare before mid-March for the convening of such a meeting? Can this be completed before March and continue until the end of March?

[As-Sadat] All this would depend on the sides concerned.

[Question] When you speak about the formation of a Palestinian government-in-exile, if the Palestinians respond to your call, Mr President, will that government join the tripartite talks or will they play their role after autonomy?

[As-Sadat] I have already expressed my view on this precise moment and I do not advise their joining, neither them nor King Husayn, in the negotiations for the full autonomy which deal only with the occupation and not with the substance of the problem. But, as I stated before, the moment we sign the full autonomy--and I hope that this will take place before the end of this year--the moment we sign the autonomy accord, at the same time we shall sign a declaration to call King Husayn to come and resume his responsilibities in the West Bank and the Palestinian autonomous body that will appear will sit with us afterward.

[Question] Will an autonomous body and a Palestinian government be merged together? Will the autonomous body sit with us?

[Answer] The question of the representation of the PLO or those who are outside the occupied territories will not emerge before 3 years to decide the fate of the Palestinians. [sentence as heard]. Thank you very much.

17 Feb Departure

NC171524 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky left Cairo at 1630 today. He was seen off at the airport by Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and a number of other senior officials.

Visit Results: Summit Plan

AU171539 Vienna KURIER in German 16 Feb 81 pp 1-2

[Heinz Nussbaumer dispatch from Cairo]

[Summary] "The first result of the talks between Egyptian President as-Sadat and Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, who is paying an official visit to Egypt, is: This summer there will be a meeting in Salzburg between the Egyptian president and Israeli Labor Party leader Shim'on Peres, who at that time may already be Israel's prime minister. Kreisky indicated that prominent European socialists might also be present at this meeting." Following his 2 and 1/2 hour talks with Kreisky on Sunday, As-Sadat confirmed his intention to visit Salzburg this summer.

In the Austrian-Egyptian economic negotiations, a spectacular arms deal seems to be in the offing. Egypt seems to be interested in the Austrian "Cuirassier" light tank, and Kreisky himself has indicated that there are no political objections to arms deliveries to Egypt, after it made peace with Israel.

Visit Results: Joint Projects

AU171541 Vienna WIENER ZEITUNG in German 17 Feb 81 p 7

[Summary] According to representatives of leading Austrian firms who had economic talks with Egyptian representatives, within the framework of Chancellor Kreisky's 4-day official visit to Egypt, the results of the talks achieved so far come up to Austrian expectations. Some of the projects discussed come under the Austrian development aid program. They include delivery of 50 Steyr tractors worth 12.5 million schillings for the expansion of a model farm north of Cairo, and of a building materials plant worth 30 million schillings from the Simmering-Graz-Pauker Corporation.

The Egyptians have declared their intention to make full use of the 1.6 billion schilling loan--of which only one third has been used so far--for buying equipment from the Austrian Siemens Company to modernize the Egyptian telephone system and to buy 50 million schillings worth of railroad switches from the Voest Steel Corporation. Shortly before the Kreisky visit, this company obtained a 250 million schilling order for a phosphate processing plant near Cairo. According to Chamber of Agriculture Chairman Lehner, 1,250 head of brown cattle are to be supplied to Egypt this year for breeding.

OLOF PALME ARRIVES TO CONTINUE PEACE MISSION

JN171945 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1930 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Feb (INA)--Olof Palme, the UN secretary general's special envoy, arrived in Baghdad tonight on his third visit to Iraq within the framework of the UN efforts to solve the Iraqi-Iranian dispute through peaceful means. Palme said that he will further deepen the valuable talks he held earlier with Iraqi officials during his last two visits to Iraq to reach a peaceful solution to the Iraqi-Iranian war. The former Swedish prime minister expressed the hope that this visit will contribute to bringing peace to the area.

FOREIGN MINISTER ADDRESSES NONALIGNED CONFERENCE

For a Baghdad INA report on Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi's 13 February speech to the Nonaligned Foreign Ministers Conference in New Delhi, see page A 1 of the 17 February South Asia DAILY REPORT.

HAMMADI INTERVIEWED BY ALL-INDIA RADIO 13 FEB

JN131813 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Feb 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi has expressed his satisfaction over the successful results of the Nonaligned Foreign Ministers Conference, describing the conference as having greatly contributed to boosting the Nonaligned Movement.

In an interview with the All-India radio correspondent in New Delhi today, Dr Hammadi praised the total support the conference members have given the Palestinian issue, asserting that the time is quite suitable to draw up a unified work program for the struggle against Zionist challenges menacing all mankind. Dr Hammadi expressed the hope that the Nonaligned Movement members will, during the next Nonaligned Conference in Baghdad, adopt a collective action against the Zionist entity.

Asked about the Iraqi-Iranian conflict, Dr Hammadi said that the conference members had shown a complete understanding of Iraq's stand. They also welcomed Iraq's call for a cease-fire and establishment of peace. The minister expressed the hope that the international efforts will soon be made to convince the Iranian leaders to accept the peace call.

Asked about Iraq's stand on the formation of the good offices committee from the nonaligned countries, Dr Hammadi said: We hope that the committee will constructively contribute to establishing peace in the area. As for Iraqi-Indian relations, Dr Hammadi said that his meetings with Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian foreign minister and other Indian officials were fruitful and successful. He expressed his appreciation for the positive stands adopted by India on several Arab issues. He praised the well-developed relations between the two countries.

TAHIR TAWFIQ HINTS AT WIDE-SCALE OFFENSIVE

JN141029 Doha QNA in Arabic 0945 GMT 14 Feb 81

[Text] Doha, 14 Feb (QNA)--A senior Iraqi official has hinted that his country is preparing to wage a wide-scale offensive in a month's time to put an end for good to the war with Iran. The Iraqi official, Tahir Tawfiq, Revolution Command Council member and minister of industry and minerals, said, however, that Iraq is ready to end this war through negotiations and by responding to all international efforts, whether stemming from the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement or the Islamic Conference.

In an interview with the Qatari paper AR-RAYAH today, Tawfiq said that the war with Iran took place to check Iran and regain Arab rights. He added: Iraq's conditions for ending the war are based on the return of these rights and putting an end to Iran's transgressions in order to devote efforts to development.

Concerning the effect on the Iraqi development process of the suspension of Iraqi oil production at the beginning of the war and the lower level of oil exports at present, Tawfiq said: Our economic situation is excellent, and we can proceed with the development process for another 2 years without exporting any quantities of oil.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 250

JN171743 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Communique No 250 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 17 February 1981]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant armed forces continue to strike at the Persian enemy in the various operations sectors. The following are the results of our armed forces activities yesterday evening and today:

1. Known enemy losses:

   A. Two Khomeyni guards were killed and one excavator destroyed in the Nowsud area.
   B. Two were killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.
   C. Our units engaged the enemy in the Gilan-e Gharb area, forcing him to flee while leaving behind 12 dead.
   D. An enemy concentration was sighted in the area opposite Sayf Sa'd. Our forces dealt with it with artillery and mortar fire, forcing the enemy to flee. Left behind were 29 dead. Our units also destroyed one gun and one observation post in the same area.
   E. In addition to what was announced yesterday, it has been confirmed that enemy losses in yesterday's battle in the Mehran area were 112 killed. The enemy also sustained three dead in the same area today and the destruction of one vehicle.
   F. Our units in the Dezful area found a serviceable Chieftain tank left behind by the enemy during previous battles.
   G. One tank was destroyed in the Khafijiyah [Susangered] area.
   H. One rocket launcher was destroyed in the Ahvaz area.
   I. Three were killed, one vehicle laden with ammunition was destroyed and one fuel tank was set ablaze in the Abadan area.

This makes total known enemy losses: 163 dead, 2 tanks, 2 vehicles--one laden with ammunition--1 gun, 1 rocket launcher, 1 excavator, 1 observation post and 1 fuel tank.

II. Our losses:

   A. In personnel: four martyrs in all sectors.
   B. In equipment: One vehicle, one mortar gun, two rocket launchers and two excavators damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 17 February 1981

BAGHDAD CALLS FOR WORLD OPPOSITION TO IRAN

GF151432 Baghdad International Serivice in Azeri 1900 GMT 14 Feb 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The world public must expose the Khomeyni regime. At a time when centuries-old chains of oppression are being broken one after another and when international committees are being set up to defend the rights of laboring people, and in fact of animals as well, the antipopular and antidemocratic regime in Iran resorts to savagery in order to maintain its position.

The Khomeyni administration has converted Iran into a horrifving slaughterhouse, a terrifying abattoir, through the inhuman methods it has employed, methods that were popular in the Middle Ages. This administration has responded with prison, torture and bullets to the demands and pleas of patriots and the masses for human rights. It has trampled upon all humanitarian practices, requirements of international law and world opinion.

Since murderer Khomeyni unsurped power 2 years ago, his administration has held the people at bayonet points, demanding that the 40-million-strong community remain silent in the face of its aggression, treachery, plunder, violation of law and destructive activities.

In the view of the impostor Khomeyni clique, the people have to accept its treacherous activities and murders and approve and support the dark plans and exploitation of occupationist imperialists and their agents. In no stage of dark dictatorship has Iran ever experienced the unprecedented terror and occupation that exists in all corners of the country today because of the Khomeyni regime's blood-dripping sword. The prisons are full of [word indistinct] prisoners. Historic squares have been stained with blood. The hearts of people, from [word indistinct] and students to progressive clergymen, have been broken. The dignity of the people has been the victim of the subversive followers of Khomeyni.

The illiterate Tehran administration and the confused (?leaders) of the fascist forces have taken methods of torture to such lengths that they do not hesitate to cut off the arms and genitals of brave men with [words indistinct] and the breasts of brave girls with swords--or to stone them in the bazaar--girls who are supposed to be symbols of dignity. Where else but in that hell can such crimes be seen? Even Hitler's criminal Gestapo did not act so savagely.

These crimes and acts of treachery are not unknown to world opinion. On behalf of the oppressed peoples of Iran, we call on the defenders of human rights, progressive and democratic governments of the world, and all freedom-loving people to see to it that the work carried out by circles defending human rights, committees and commissions will not remain mere words. In order to restore the destroyed rights of the Iranian nation and its oppressed people, a respectable state of affairs has to be created (?with international efforts) in this country if human rights are to survive.

In the name of honesty, dignity, neighborliness and humanity, we voice our serious opposition to the criminal and oppressive policy and fascistic rule of Khomeyni and his administration. We also declare that, in the name of justice and rights and for the sake of safeguarding international law, international organizations, commissions and committees must ban the ambassadors of the false imam of our century from their presence. They must also create opposition throughout the world to the savagery and base policies of the Khomeyni regime. They must inform the world of the crimes committed in Iran by the illiterate, satanic and devilish forces.

We believe that independent and progressive states, organizations, groups and associations--in other words, the whole of progressive humanity--will raise the banner of opposition to such a dark dictatorship and lawlessness and take the necessary serious and decisive measures. We further believe that these progressive forces will respond in a sincere and positive manner to the conscientious voice of the Iranian nation, progressive organizations associations and thousands of chained political prisoners who have been oppressed by the devilish and illiterate forces. Thus they will prevent the blood-stained ax of the Khomeyni regime from shedding more blood. Undoubtedly, opposition by the world body and progressive international organizations will be a contribution to this humanitarian, humane issue.

AL-QASIM VOICES JORDANIAN STAND ON PALESTINE

LD160944 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0730 GMT 16 Feb 81

[Text] Jidda, 16 Feb (SPA)--Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim has reiterated his country's adherence to the Arab-Islamic unanimity on the need to resolve the Palestinian question through a constructive joint effort. He added that there can be no just and lasting solution for the Middle East question without the withdrawal of the Zionist enemy from the occupied Arab territories and the respect of the Palestine people's right to self-determination under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

This is what the Jordanian foreign minister said in an interview with the Saudi paper AL-BILAD published here today. He denounced the Camp David accords, saying that they have not and will not achieve peace based on right and justice for the Palestinian question.

Marwan called on the Arab and Muslim countries to continue contacts among themselves to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the area through a constant dialogue with the EEC at both diplomatic and political levels with a view to explaining the justice of the Middle East cause and refuting the Zionist enemy allegations which have distorted the facts.

He also called for checking the false Zionist allegations against the Palestinian people through an Arab information policy based on one objective, and the utilization of all the Arab and Muslim capabilities and available resources for making progress in all military and information spheres. He added that in order to realize a joint Arab action, honesty and sincerity should prevail in our dealings so that we may build a solid base from which we can right our common enemy.

The Jordanian foreign minister pointed out that his country fully believes in noninterference in the affairs of any other Arab or Muslim country for the sake of safeguarding neighborliness with adjacent countries.

He called on the Muslim Arab countries to adopt a more serious and firm stance toward the Zionist enemy attempts to detonate the situation in southern Lebanon and the continuous Zionist attacks against that part of Lebanon. He added that the battle between us and the Zionist enemy is not only military but comprehensive which requires us all to withstand the enemy with all our capabilities.

The Jordanian foreign minister also denied that his country is a tool in the hands of any quarter. This is because of its faith in the justice of the Palestine cause.

AL-QASIM VISITS PAKISTAN, MEETS WITH ZIAUL HAQ

For Pakistani media coverage of Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim's visit to Pakistan, see the Pakistan section of the 13 February South Asia DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

FOREIGN MINISTER ADDRESSES NONALIGNED CONFERENCE

For an Amman radio report on Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim's address to the Nonaligned Foreign Ministers Conference in New Delhi, see page A 1 of the 17 February South Asia DAILY REPORT.

AL-QASIM RETURNS FROM NONALIGNED CONFERENCE

JN152032 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 15 Feb 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Mr Marwan al-Qasim returned home today after representing Jordan at the Nonaligned Foreign Ministers Conference held in New Delhi, India.

Upon his arrival, Mr al-Qasim praised the outcome of the conference, which he said was in accordance with the principles that Jordan adheres to in its relations with the countries of the world. Mr al-Qasim said that the 96 countries participating in the conference had reached a unanimous agreement on the four basic issues discussed at the conference. He noted that nonaligned countries had condemned the illegal Israeli practices in the occupied West Bank and in particular in Arab Jerusalem. They have also demanded the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Arab lands occupied in 1967 and demanded the return of Arab Jerusalem to Arab sovereignty. The participating countries had also stressed the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination.

CABINET BRIEFED ON EFFORTS TO FREE CHARGE

JN151540 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1512 GMT 15 Feb 81

[Text] Amman, 15 Feb (PETRA)--The Cabinet today listened to a report by Prime Minister Mudar Badran on the latest available developments concerning the abduction of the Jordanian charge d'affaires and on the efforts to rescue him from his abductors.

PAPER IMPUGNS CHARGES IN SYRIAN STATEMENT

JN140947 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 14 Feb 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "It Is Accusing Us of Its Own Crime," the newspaper AD-DUSTUR says: Anyone who hears the Syrian information media these days cannot but feel disgust and ridicule for its attempts to cover up the crimes being perpetrated by the Damascus regime against the Syrian people and the Arab nation. After refusing to take responsibility for the criminal attack carried out by the Syrian regime's hirelings against the Jordanian Embassy in Beirut, their assassination of a Jordanian guard and a Lebanese guard and their abduction of Charge d'Affaires Hisham al-Muhaysin, the Damascus trumpets have come up with a fresh craze of lies and hollow accusations holding Jordan responsible for masterminding and implementing this operation.

These exposed attempts and frenzied campaigns cannot deceive anyone, particularly since the truth cannot be concealed and the Damascus rulers' involvement in all the campaigns of terror in the Arab homeland has become apparent. The levelling of accusations cannot exonerate those whose hands are stained with the blood of innocent people in Damascus, Aleppo, Homs, Hamah, Beirut and Tall az-Za'tar.

Artful machinations, quixotic campaigns and plotting in the dark against Jordan cannot protect the agent regime or give it a writ or acquittal from its crimes against its people and nation and its fateful issues.

SYRIA URGED TO DESIST FROM 'ORGANIZED TERRORISM'

JN150841 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 15 Feb 81

[From the press review]

[Text] In today's editorial AR-RA'Y talks about the stand taken by Jordan during the Nonaligned Foreign Ministers Conference, which has just concluded its work in New Delhi, and its alertness to the current wave of organized terrorism. The paper says: The position taken by Jordan at the Nonaligned Foreign Ministers Conference was an accurate expression of the honest and committed Arab stand, which seeks to properly present the Arab cause to the 96 nonaligned nations and to indicate the only course for achieving a just and comprehensive Middle East settlement based on Israel's complete withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and enabling the Palestinians to freely determine their own destiny on their land.

Out of its concern for the Arab cause and Arab efforts to achieve the desired just and comprehensive solution, Jordan also felt that it was its duty to alert the conference to the question of organized terrorism which has recently emerged in the Arab world and led to the attack on our Beirut embassy and the abduction of our charge d'affaires there.

The reason for sounding the alert was that organized terrorism not only harms the Arab cause and Arab prestige, but also the principles of the Nonaligned Movement, and creates a problem within the movement which did not exist before.

AR-RA'Y says: Needless to say the Syrian regime, which is spearheading this type of terrorism in the Arab world and which was obviously embarrassed before the conference because of its behavior, has no choice but to reconsider its erroneous stand and to abandon the immoral acts it is committing in the dark. The international community, including the nonaligned states, will not condone crooked and dishonest ways in international relations. Perhaps the Syrian regime has learned its lesson from its embarrassment before the conference, because if it has not, it will only isolate itself within the Nonaligned Movement, just as it is isolated within the Arab world because of its behavior.

PRESS COMMENTS ON U.S. REASSESSMENT ON MIDEAST

JN171016 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Press review]

[Text] Today's papers devote their editorials to two main topics: the announcement by the U.S. administration that it intends to reconsider American conventional policy toward the Palestine question, and the decision of the Israeli Government to exert backstage efforts to prevent the U.S. administration from selling arms to Saudi Arabia and Jordan.

Under the headline "Washington and the Desired Lesson," AD-DUSTUR says: Now that the new U.S. administration has announced its intention to reconsider American conventional policy toward the Palestinian question in particular, and the entire Middle East situation in general, we say that it can benefit a great deal from the experience and conclusions of officials in previous administrations and from the European stands on the reassessment of this policy.

The statements previously made by Sisco and other politicians known for their close contact with the Arab-Israeli conflict confirm that ignoring the Palestinians' right to self-determination and the importance of PLO's participation as a primary partner in any Middle East peace talks will not achieve a final solution to the conflict. On the contrary, there will continue to be a vicious circle of violence and counterviolence. Furthermore, the statements made by heads of European states and the stand adopted by the EEC in support of the Palestinians' right to their land, entity and self-determination are new indicators of an increasing international conviction that peace must be based on a real, just solution to the Palestinian question. Therefore, it behooves Washington to heed these convictions instead of going along with Zionist stands and behavior, which still constitute an insurmountable obstacle for any positive move toward a just and comprehensive settlement. For a long time Israel has counted on support from U.S. administrations, which it secured by misleading the U.S. public and exerting a sort of hegemony over these administrations. Consequently, Washington has been driven to make difficult decisions, so that now, Israel and the United States are the only ones opposing Palestinian rights and the PLO, the representative of the Palestinians in the settlement of the issue.

AD-DUSTUR continues: The Arabs have called on the new U.S. administration to reconsider its Middle East policy. His Majesty King Husayn was the first to alert the Reagan administration to past mistakes so that Washington will not remain captive to past policies. The vital interests of the United States will not be protected by Zionist aggression and disavowal of Palestinian rights. The security of the Western world will also not be guaranteed by threatening the security of the peoples in this region through an entity which knows no boundaries and no limits to its ambitions and plans. Peace cannot be achieved by committing aggression and violating other peoples' rights.

Concluding, AD-DUSTUR says: The U.S. administration must take into consideration the lessons and stands before it so that Washington will neither remain captive to past erroneous stands nor serve as a bridge which Zionism can cross to violate Arab rights and territory. For it is certain that this will not be in the interest of the United States or its people. Perhaps the statements made by the U.S. and European officials we talked about will serve as a guideline for Washington in rectifying U.S. policy toward the Middle East and Palestinian rights.

Under the headline "The U.S. Decision Is Being Put to the Test," AR-RA'Y says: It is not new or strange that Israel is trying to make the United States withhold arms to Saudi Arabia and Jordan. Therefore, whether it goes about this openly or behind the scenes is immaterial.

Shamir's decision not to use the open approach in persuading the United States not to supply arms to the two countries does not mean any change in Israel's traditional stand of barring arms to the Arabs, especially Saudi Arabia and Jordan. Israel may have thought that a few whispered words in the lobbies of Congress and the Pentagon is the best way to spread lies, since it can easily disclaim them when they become known to the Arabs.

Regardless of whether Israeli efforts are made overtly or covertly, the expected U.S. decision concerning the two banks [of the Jordan River] alone will show if the decisionmakers have resisted or succumbed to Israeli pressure. This is what counts to the Arabs.

Concluding, AR-RA'Y says: It is time U.S. decisionmaking was finally liberated from the pressure of the Jewish lobby in the United States. Such liberation would open new vistas in Arab-U.S. relations on the basis of mutual understanding and appreciation of Arab rights and U.S. national interests.

JORDANIAN POPULAR DELEGATION VISITS 17 FEB

Arrival Report

JN171146 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] The Jordanian popular delegation under former Minister Hamad al-Farhan arrived in Syria this morning. The delegation was received at Dara' border by Maj Gen Nasir ad-Din Nasir, minister of interior.

Meeting With Al-Asad

JN172031 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad today at noon received the Jordanian popular delegation made up of Hamad al-Farhan, Ibrahim Bakr, Sulayman al-Hadidi, Marwan al-Hammud, Faris an-Nabulsi, Salih ar-Rushydat, Jawdat al-Muhaysin, Mu-ammad al-Qar'an, Yasir 'Amr, Husayn Muhalla, Rizq al-Bataynah and Michel Massanat. The meeting was attended by Comrade Sami al-'Atari, Ba'th Party National Command member; Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad, information minister; Maj Gen Nasir ad-Din Nasir, interior minister; and Hasan 'Ajaj, assistant secretary of the Liberation War Vanguards organization--As-Sa'iqah forces.

The meeting lasted until 1600 today. During the meeting the discussion dealt with the relations between Syria and Jordan, the developments these relations have witnessed in recent years and the burdens shouldered by Syria as a result of its constant commitment to defend Arab causes, particularly the Palestinian cause.

The delegation members expressed hope that relations between the two fraternal countries will improve in order to strengthen Arab capabilities for steadfastness and confrontation.

His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad spoke in detail about the relations between the two countries in the past stage and Syria's efforts to promote these relations, stressing that Syria has shouldered many burdens for building good relations and maintaining them, always proceeding from what will benefit the pan-Arab cause and what will strengthen the capability for steadfastness and confrontation. The president explained that the reaons behind what Syria has been subjected to are its political course, its principled pan-Arab stand and its commitment to the defense of pan-Arab issues. President al-Asad stressed that this unswerving course is firmer than ever and enjoys the support of all Arab strugglers.

President al-Asad said: Syria always proceeds in its stands from principled rules and pan-Arab considerations. Syria has not dealt in the past and will not deal in the present with others through sensitivities and wounds. President al-Asad added: We look at the Jordanian citizen as being the same as the citizen in Syria. We also greatly respect the successive militant pan-Arab stands under his leadership.

The delegation members expressed their thanks to his excellency the president and their great appreciation for the ideas put forth by President al-Asad when he addressed them and for Syria's principled and pan-Arab stands under his leadership.

At the end of the meeting, the delegation members expressed the hope that Syria will continue to exert its efforts to locate the whereabouts of the Jordanian charge d'affaires in Beirut so that he may return to his family.

President al-Asad promised that Syria will continue to exert its utmost efforts in this direction, particularly since it has an interest in clarifying the circumstances surrounding this operation in addition to humanitarian reasons which call for the return of the Jordanian charge d'affaires unharmed to his family.

The members of the Jordanian popular delegation said farewell to his excellency the president, thanked him for this stand and expressed appreciation for Syria's steadfastness and outstanding pan-Arab role in the Arab arena.

Delegation Interview

JN172256 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2130 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Interview on 17 February in Damascus by Syrian television with former Jordanian ministers Hamad al-Farhan and Sulayman al-Hadidi--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] Following your more than 4-hour meeting with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, could you please give us your impressions about this meeting?

[Hamad al-Farhan] We thank President al-Asad, who despite his many commitments and heavy responsibilities gave us some of his time. We also thank the brothers who laid the ground for this meeting.

We had the honor of meeting with his excellency the president to discuss the subject of Hisham al-Muhaysin, who was recently abducted. Our hope was to ask his excellency the president to exert his efforts in searching for Hisham al-Muahysin and rescuing him. We realize that President al-Asad, from a pan-Arab and national premise, does not condone such acts.

Al-Asad welcomed this idea and stressed that [words indistinct] Syrian forces in Lebanon or the Syrian organizations had no connections or anything to do with this operation. We sensed a sincere, loyal and determined will on the part of President al-Asad to clarify this issue and help save Hisham al-Muhaysin.

President al-Asad spoke about Jordanian-Syrian relations with complete frankness and sincerity. He spoke about their positive development, their negative developments and the factors that led to this development. The president stressed that he is well aware of the danger of any differences between any two Arab countries, the danger they pose to the peoples of the two countries and the core of the Arab people's causes. His excellency the president stressed that he desires that Syrian-Jordanian relations should be directed toward the two countries common fate.

We shall return confident that there is still an opportunity that relations which will be more positive than the ones witnessed during the past stage, will be established between our two countries.

[Sulayman al-Hadidi] We sensed that His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad is greatly interested in the issue of the abduction of Hisham al-Muhaysin, the Jordanian charge d'affaires in Beirut, by some unknown elements or by some elements whose affiliation is unknown.

Delegation Departure

JN172149 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] The Jordanian popular delegation under Hamad al-Farhan left Damascus this evening at the end of a 1-day visit to Syria during which the delegation members met with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad and several government officials.

The delegation was seen off by Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad, Interior Minister Maj Gen Nasir ad-Din Nasir and other officials.

COMMENTARY ASSOCIATES BADRAN WITH KIDNAPPING

JN161630 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 16 Feb 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] Mudar Badran is continuing along the path of sabotaging Jordanian-Syrian relations at an ever-increasing pace. Mr Badran does not hesitate to undermine the gains achieved by the march of coordination and integration between the two fraternal states in various fields involving the citizens' daily lives and movements and cooperation in fields which can be described as nonpolitical.

Badran did not begin to implement his role in the process of sabotaging Syrian-Jordanian relations with the incident involving the kidnapping of Hisham al-Muhaysin, Jordanian charges d'affaires in Beirut. Badran actually began to implement this role when he personally participated in (?representing) the royal Jordanian side in the U.S.-Israeli plot to liquidate Syria's pan-Arab role from inside Syria through the black agent reaction and the brotherhood gang of murderers and criminals.

There is [word indistinct] information proving that Badran personally participated in establishing training camps for the brotherhood gang in Jordan. This information also proves that he himself visited these camps, met with their directors and supervised some of the training.

There is also information on the role played by Badran in financing the brotherhood gang and supplying it with arms and other aid. He was also acquainted with the transfer of these terrorist criminals from and to Syria and with the criminal acts perpetrated against Syrian citizens and institutions.

Such information is not secret. Indeed, it was presented to King Husayn himself earlier and before the Jordanian [words indistinct] the nature of the role, which it agreed to undertake in the process of the U.S. settlement, which might come now clothed in West European garb.

Even before the incident of Al-Muhaysin's kidnapping, Badran was sabotaging and harming bilateral relations through his statements to the effect that relations with Syria can neither be improved nor restored [words indistinct].

Our people in Jordan are aware of these truths. These people can see, read, hear and heed what is going on. Thus it is not in jest that the people in Amman are talking about the gang of the U.S. CIA and the prominent role played by Badran in this gang's activities. The ordinary citizen in Amman is aware that Mudar Badran is the main performer in the group of U.S. CIA agents. There is also talk in Amman about Mudar Badran's association with arranging for the Al-Muhaysin incident in order to exploit this in the escalating process of sabotaging Jordanian-Syrian relations, since such sabotage is a necessary condition for evading commitment to the Palestinian issue and the Arab summit resolutions and, consequently, for entering the trench of a capitulatory settlement be imposed on the Arabs.

Badran's exaggerated onslaught, campaign of hatred and provocations and accusations against Syria are without foundation and illogical. Such exaggerations are a kind of self-defense, particularly now that accusations are being directed against him in Jordan itself. He is escalating the process of sabotaging relations and uttering provocations against Syria in an attempt to convince the masters of the plot in Washington of his eligibility for roles that might be even greater than his current role inside Jordan, if such a necessity ever arises. He is escalating this campaign in an attempt to lengthen his days as prime minister, particularly now that complaints against his (?stands) have increased [words indistinct] Jordanian nationalists both inside and outside the regime.

TISHRIN VIEWS JORDNIAN HOSTILITY TOWARD SYRIA

JN151110 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 15 Feb 81

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] In the "Behind the News" column under the headline "What Is Going on Between Syria and Jordan?" TISHRIN says: For some time now, the Jordanian regime has devoted itself to attacking Syria and spreading lies about its domestic situation and allegations about its Arab and international policy. In his statements before, during and after the Amman summit, King Husayn personally gave the green light to his media to wage an aggressive campaign against Syria. Thus, the CIA intelligence gang in Amman started a rabid provocative campaign against Syria, in which the king's prime minister, Mudar Badran, had a special and major role. Mudar Badran seized every opportunity to escalate the hostility against Syria in an attempt to liquidate the historical, geographical and religious bonds between Syria and Jordan and the aspirations of the one people in the two fraternal countries.

Fraternal Jordan is an indivisible part of Syria but colonialism severed it from the motherland and established in it a political entity connected with colonialism in order to divide the Arab homeland and to establish the Israeli entity, which has separated the Arab territory in Asia from that in Africa. However, Jordan remains an indivisible part of the Arab homeland and of Syria and its people are part of the Syrian and Arab people, who reject colonialism and subjection to Israel.

King Husayn's game has been exposed. His aims are well known and the role he accepted in the U.S. conspiracy to impose the terms of the capitulatory settlement on the Arabs has also been exposed. The Arab masses--Jordanians, Palestinians and Syrians--are capable of setting their account with those who want to drag Jordan into subservience to imperialism and Israel. Syria will not react to Jordanian provocations against the Syrians and will not be drawn in to taking measures against Jordanian citizens residing in or entering Syria. Syria will open its doors and heart to Jordanians and will remain their supporter and their motherland.

In another article, under the headline "The Eloquence of Biqa' Airspace," TISHRIN says: When reporting the air battle between Israeli planes which violated the Lebanese airspace and Syrian planes, the Jordanian media could not conceal their gloating. They were maliciously neutral, as if they were reporting a battle between Ecuador and Peru. This gloating was expected of King Husayn and his media, which prominently cited the Israeli report on the battle rather than the Syrian official spokesman's statement on the martyrdom of a Syrian pilot whose plane was downed by Israel. The king, his regime and media are not interested in the Israeli-Arab dispute, particularly when Syria is involved. Such a stand by the king and his media serves the king's interests, which are the same as those of As-Sadat, who has tried to persuade the Arab nation of the uselessness of resisting the Zionist invasion.

RADIO SAYS BORDER TO REMAIN OPEN TO JORDANIANS

JN171716 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Syria's policy under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad is a pan-Arab policy of unity. Arab unity is a firm and strategic goal under which all the other goals in the Arab arena are classified.

Unity for Syria is a national and pan-Arab necessity. Unity is not only an end in itself, it also represents the means that would guarantee the Arab nation's victory in its struggle against imperialism and Zionism and puts the Arab homeland's resources in the service of the Arab citizens, thus enabling these citizens to achieve prosperity and progress.

Pan-Arab Syria is proud of the stand on Arab unity, which is underlined by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad as witnessed by his statement: We have no condition for unity except the achievement of unity.

The history of attempts to achieve unity in the Arab homeland following the corrective movement does not record one attempt to achieve unity in the homeland's east and Maghreb in which Syria was not a positive partner. The history of unity experiments during the past 10 years does not record any attempt to achieve unity which was either impeded or failed because of Syria. This is in implementation of the president's statement that Syria would proceed along the path of unity with any Arab state desiring this, proceeding to the extent to which this state's capabilities or circumstances allow it to achieve such a unity. Syria was plunging headlong in all sincerity in an attempt to make a success of the experiment of coordination and integration with the fraternal state of Jordan, an experiement which had at its disposal all the intrinsic and pan-Arab assets needed for success. The Syrian political leadership put up with great hardships in its attempts to spread the conviction that it is possible to achieve progress along the path of unionist work while overlooking the social and political system in Jordan.

An objective assessment of the stage of coordination and integration between the two fraternal Arab states compels us to admit that despite all obstacles, this march was successful and useful on both the national and pan-Arab levels. In fact the effects of such a march reflected on the citizens' daily lives, movement and transportation between the two states and cooperation in the economic and other fields.

It seems that the saying that the only taboo in the Arab homeland is unity action can be said to be true in the case of the coordination and integration experiment with Jordan. Indeed, the experiment with Jordan is being subjected to a grave plot and premeditated attempts to sabotage it. It is understood that U.S. imperialism and Zionism view any unity action as a threat against them. That the gang of U.S. Central Intelligence Agency agents in Amman, particularly Mudar Badran, should undertake to actively implement this plot confirms the statements of the citizens in fraternal Jordan; namely, that this gang is working against the interests of Jordan, the Arab Palestinian people and unity.

Syria is aware that those undertaking the implementation of the campaign of sabotaging and destroying Syrian-Jordanian relations and of hatred, incitement and slander against Syria do not represent fraternal Jordan in any way. Nor do these people express the masses' will and aspirations. Thus, Syria, under President Hafiz al-Asad, does not blame the brothers in Jordan for the crimes perpetrated by the U.S. intelligence agents. Nor does Syria allow itself to get carried away or adopt stands in the heat of the moment and as a result of the crimes perpetrated by the enemies of Syria and Jordan. In fact, Syria will not adopt any arrangement that would be desired by the enemies of unity and Arabism and that would facilitate their efforts to serve their masters.

Syria is just as concerned over the sons of our people in Jordan as it is over the sons of our people in Syria. Syria is well aware that our masses in Jordan have adopted the same stand as our masses in Syria with regard to the plot of the U.S. intelligence agents against Syria and Jordan and the Arab nation's pan-Arab issue.

Syria has not adopted and will not adopt any procedure or arrangement that would harm the Jordanian citizens and brothers. Syria's border will remain open to them, since Syria is their motherland, the organ through which their pan-Arab and unity sentiments are aired and the power that defends their issue, just like it defends the Palestinian issue and the issue of the masses throughout the Arab homeland.

Syria will not allow the imperialist and Zionist agents to deepen the fragmentation and weaken the Jordanian brothers' legitimate aspirations for achieving cohesion and solidarity with Syria on the path towards unity.

TZIPORI COMMENTS ON RELATIONS, DISPUTE WITH U.S.

TA180751 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Te:.] Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori says that even if the U.S. administration persists in its opposition to the settlements, Israel will implement its decisions. According to him this is the only dispute between the United States and Israel and that aside from this the new U.S. administration has not changed the U.S. attitude toward Israel. Mordekhay Tzipori says the U.S. administration views Israel as a strategic asset from which the United States too can benefit. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal talked with the deputy defense minister.

[Begin recording] [Tal] Mordekhay Tzipori says that the flow of Western arms to the neighboring countries have led Israel into a trap. Israel is interested in a decreased Soviet influence in the region but this issue is connected to the flow of Western arms which can be used against us.

[Tzipori] The free world's foothold in this region is important for the future of the Western world. As far as we are concerned, this entails dangers for Israel and under certain circumstances all this increased power can be turned against us. Therefore, the State of Israel must always have the appropriate answer.

[Tal] The appropriate answer, according to Tzipori, is to prevent an increase in Arab power or, conversely, to increase Israel's power. Tzipori says Israel would like the Americans to direct at least half of the sum of money received from Israel for equipment back to Israel for the purchase of Israeli products. Tzipori says that the only basic dispute with the United States now is the issue of settlements. The previous U.S. administration already knew about the 10 settlements planned by Israel. Where then does the misunderstanding originate?

[Tzipori] This may be due to domestic developments in Israel. We had internal arguments over these 10 settlements with the democratic movement and this has been blown out of all proportion and presented in the United States as a new issue. It is possible that after we discuss things, they may assume a different hue. It is also possible that the new U.S. administration will not agree to this and the State of Israel will have to do what it decides.

[Tal] Tzipori says that the U.S. administration has not changed its attitude toward Israel and that Israeli-U.S. strategic contacts will be resumed on the level of work teams after Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's return to Israel. According to Tzipori Israel does everything it can to reduce the flow of Western arms, especially sophisticated arms, to the Arab countries, but when it cannot do so it will ask for an appropriate compensation that will insure its strength. [end recording]

POLL VIEWS U.S. POLICY TOWARD ISRAEL, ARABS

TA180821 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 18 Feb 81 p 1

[Pori public opnion poll: "Majority Believes: U.S. Supports Israel, Arab States in Equal Measure"]

[Text] The majority of the Israeli public believes that U.S. policy in the Middle East supports Israel and the Arab states equally, but a majority also thinks that this kind of unbiased policy is detrimental to Israel's security interests. This emerges from a Pori Institute nationwide poll, commissioned by HA'ARETZ.

Question: "What is your view of current U.S. policy in the Middle East--does it support Israel or the Arab states, or does it support both sides more or less equally?"

To this question, 44 percent said the United States supports both sides in equal measure, 19 percent that it supports the Arab states more, 10 percent that it supports Israel more, and 17 percent asserted that the United States supports neither side because it only looks out for its own interests. The remaining 10 percent had no opinion on the subject.

Question: "Is an unbiased U.S. policy in the Middle East beneficial or detrimental to Israel's security interests?" To this question, 42 percent replied that it is detrimental to Israel, while 35 percent believed that this policy is beneficial to Israel. Another 3 percent said that it depends on specific issues, while 20 percent said they "do not know."

The poll indicates also that the majority of the public believes U.S. support for Israel has not changed during the past year. Question: "Do you think that U.S. support for Israel during the past year has increased, decreased, or remained as it was?" To this question, 44 percent said that U.S. support for Israel had not changed, 35 percent said that in their view, at least, this support had decreased, while only 11 percent said they thought the support had grown. The remaining 10 percent said they "do not know."

The poll covered a representative sample of 1,200 men and women.

U.S. PHOTO SAID TO SHOW EGYPTIAN SINAI VIOLATION

TA171356 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 17 Feb 81 p 1

[Military correspondent report: "A U.S. Aerial Photograph Confirms: The Egyptians Maintain Forces in the Sinai Which They Are Not Allowed To"]

[Text] An aerial photograph made by the Americans within the framework of supervision activities in the Sinai reveals that the Egyptians are maintaining in Zone A, adjacent to the Canal, military elements belonging to seven battalions of three different brigades in addition to the brigades they are permitted to maintain there under the agreement. This constitutes an Egyptian violation of the agreement.

The American aerial photograph was made in the course of regular supervision activity in the Sinai or at the request of one of the sides. Israel has long been claiming that the Egyptians are maintaining military elements belonging to various battalions in addition to the four brigades they are permitted to maintain in the Sinai under the agreement. The photograph confirms Israel's contention, although the elements in question belong to seven battalions and not to nine, as Israel claimed in the past. At the same time, it should be noted that the Egyptians are not taking advantage of their right to station in this zone the full number of tanks, armoured personnel carriers and artillery which would constitute a standard brigade in the Egyptian Army.

Apart from this violation, Israel claims that the Egyptians are maintaining a commando battalion in Abu Rudays and a larger number of military personnel than provided for in the agreement for Zone B, including aerial observation units, monitoring and electronic warfare units. Israel also claims that the Egyptians are maintaining two military police companies and a new monitoring unit in the buffer zone, again contrary to the agreement.

Meanwhile, it has been reported that in the wake of a former complaint filed by Israel the Egyptians have rectified a violation having to do with the stationing of artillery pieces in a place in which they were barred under the agreement and have rebuked on one occasion pilots and their commander for crossing the border by mistake.

ETHIOPIA

FINAL COPWE CENTRAL COMMITTEE SESSION RESOLUTIONS

LD162114 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1730 GMT 13 Feb 81 EA

[Resolutions issued at the end of the second Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE], Central Committee session of 12 February--read by Imbibel Ayele, head of the office of the COPWE Central Committee]

[Excerpts] The resolutions of the second regular session of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia Central Committee:

The role of the broad masses in making history has assumed a new dimension during the past 6 years. Having extricated themselves from the yoke of feudalism and neocolonialism, they have started to travel along the correct path of development. Although they did not have a vanguard revolutionary organization, they managed to score glorious victories as a result of a bitter struggle under the leadership of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] and of the sacrifice of their best and dear sons and daughters. Although the need for a revolutionary party leadership is essential and indispensable to eradicate completely exploitation and oppression and build a new society where justice and prosperity reigns, our revolution in this respect has not been fully able to realize this objective. Neither have attempts made in various directions provided the revolution with the desired response. However, after a number of ups and downs and great sacrifices, the objective realities created for formation of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE].

The existence of COPWE, the first official political organization in the history of Ethiopia, with the leading militant and vanguard of the broad masses Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, as its pivot, was confirmed and it started its activities by holding its first historic congress in June 1980. As is objectively assessed in the report presented by our revolutionary leader, Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, it was observed that during the past months of its operation, experience--which can contribute immensely toward the effort of establishing a party and the progress of the revolution--has been gained.

The Central Committee emphatically examined the central report's [Mengistu's report, implying that it is a summation of reports from all branches] analysis which deeply and objectively explores the present national and international situation. The Central Committee noted that the stage of progress reached by our revolution today has created a more favorable situation than ever before for speedy development. Although this is a great victory achieved by the broad masses in overcoming the complex struggle they have been faced with, a still more arduous struggle lies ahead regarding the realization of our objectives.

It also noted that greater efficiency together with readiness for sacrifice is expected of revolutionaries, in particular, to enable us to negotiate the arduous struggle to hasten the realization of the coming bright future.

The Central Committee learned from the central report that in view of the present stage of reconstruction undertaken by the working people, entrenching the socialist character of our economy; further strengthening our defense and widening its social base, accelerating the progress of, and rendering depth to, our organizational work; and developing the proletarian internationali[illegible] aspect of our struggle are major issues on which we should put a special emphasis for their greater implementation in our reconstruction effort.

The Central Committee fully accepted what the comrade chairman correctly noted in his report when saying: The strength of a political organization is determined not only by the large or small size of the number of its members, but also chiefly by their quality; that is their abiding by the principles of the organization and their discipline on the basis of ideological and organizational unity. The Central Committee strongly calls on the entire COPWE membership to implement this.

After analyzing in detail the central report presented by the comrade chairman, the reports presented by the various COPWE and governmental bodies, the second 6-month plan drafted on the basis of the experience gained from the implementation of the first 6 months plan of action of COPWE, and after holding lengthy deliberations on topical and major issues of the revolution, the Central Committee adopted the following resolutions:

(?Defining) its ideological line, thus enabling it to perform its vanguard role, and outlining its correct political line and policies is a primary task for a Marxist-Leninist political organization. But only outlining a correct political line and policies by itself does not realize the objectives of the organization. (?Decisive) executive cadres organized on, and bound together with, identity of objectives are needed.

We have taken note of what our revolutionary leader, Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, reminded us in the central report he presented to the second regular session of the COPWE Central Committee on 9 February 1981. He said: It is our organizational strength which enables us to implement the guidelines of struggle we have outlined after examining the situation we are in. In this respect, however, we realize that there is a lot required in complying with the demands of objective realities. The formation of COPWE rendered greater guarantees to the central point of the revolution by multiplying and strengthening their organizations. Henceforth, revolutionaries should ensure that they are competent enough to live up to their responsibilities of intensifying their struggle along the correct line.

The mission of our organization is directly determined by the achievements of its members. In carrying out party work to organize the party, which will provide us with the reliable and strong leadership of tomorrow, the activity of each member will have a contribution to make in the content and in the shortening or lengthening of the period for the completion of the party. Since individuals who look at membership of the organization as a guarantee to a good life measure the achievements of the revolution in terms of their own well-being, their desire and wish is to see the organization serve them. This is a hindrance.

Today, at this stage of the development of COPWE plays a great role in the changing situation in terms of the quality and number of members. The strength of a political organization is not only determined by the large or small membership but more so by its quality, that is, their obedience to organizational principles, to ideological and organizational unity and to discipline; this was said by our revolutionary leader in the above-mentioned central report stressing the great importance of the competence of members in determining the strength of our organization.

Taking note of this situation, the second regular session of the Central Committee of COPWE has passed the following resolutions:

1. A. Since a strong organizational discipline is essential in further implementing the policies of COPWE, members of COPWE organized in the various bodies of the organization, submitting to organizational discipline and strengthening ideological and organizational unity, should further strengthen the basic organization of COPWE and do practical organizational work which helps to raise the quality of the members. Therefore organizational work should be carried out.

B. With all our bodies and members, our small numbers still render us unable fully to accomplish today's task of forming the party and of reaching the goal of COPWE's mission. Therefore by developing our small numbers into organizational strength, members of COPWE in government and mass organizations should give consideration and strong effort to further realize the implementation of COPWE's objectives.

2. At present, when we are laying down a reliable foundation for our organizational existence, remaining vigilant against the obstructive tendencies of liberalism and sectarianism and taking corrective measures based on centralism, every member, doing his respective job, should be an example by respecting organizational discipline. [applause]

The presence of a working class with a firm belief in scientific socialism, conscious of and capable of recognizing its long-term political objectives, ready and willing resourcefully to coordinate its long-term objectives with its immediate, individual and class interests, is the main prerequisite for the success of any socialist movement geared towards the formation of a communist society. It is therefore imperative that the working masses be fully armed with the ideology of a working class. It is also evident that the ideological consciousness of the working masses can become a reliable guide to action only through the direct and full participation of the party of the working people. Even though the question of revolutionary political organization has always been a source of weakness to our revolutionary movement, the relentless efforts made by the revolutionary government to raise the level of consciousness of the working masses of Ethiopia and envisage their meaningful participation in the political process if highly commendable.

The new chapter in our revolutionary struggle requires us to overcome the shortcomings inherited from the previous feudal system through a redefinition of the social production system, the promotion of science, technology and working class culture, the development of production sectors, and the introduction of a new, socialist accounting system and management style. During this phase of economic reconstruction a systematic and rigorous struggle has to be waged to guarantee the triumph of the new socialist economic system over the dying economic traditions of shopkeepers and entrenched capitalists.

This is a time when enemies of the revolution will oppose the smooth transition of the revolutionary process by the use of subtle and misleading tactics. It is therefore logical and timely that the working masses of Ethiopia be armed with adequate ideological consciousness to successfully combat such dangerous reactionary plots against the progress of our revolution. Thus priority will be given to efforts designed to raise the political consciousness of the working masses.

The level of consciousness and the exemplary role of our revolutionaries should be further enhanced to help facilitate the working class recognition of its historic and scientific role in the revolutionary process and hence its active and effective participation.

It is furthermore evident that there cannot be a revolutionary movement without a revolutionary theory. In light of the cardinal revolutionary principle of the great revolutionary leader Lenin--that is, in view of the fact that there cannot be a revolutionary movement without a revolutionary theory and the vanguard role can be played only by a revolutionary party armed with revolutionary theory, and conscious of the need to implement this principle in our revolutionary process--the second regular session of COPWE has passed the following resolutions:

1. Cognizant of the need to be fully-armed with Marxist-Leninist ideological theory, members of COPWE should, both on an individual basis and through their respective cells, participate in uninterrupted political discussions and studies. Through their exemplary role and the production and distribution of political literature, they should continuously educate themselves and the workers of Ethiopia.

2. Aware of the historic role and responsibilities of COPWE to guarantee the teaching and spread of undiluted proletarian ideology and effectively to promote the national reconstruction program, immediate attention should be given to the coordination of concerted political activities to enhance the politicization of the working masses.

3. Since radio, television, newspapers, and other media play an important part in disseminating Marxism-Leninism and enhancing the class struggle, their program should be changed so as to enable them to counter counterrevolutionary propaganda, intensify the ongoing class struggle, speed up economic construction, especially the change of production relations, and develop the productivity of the working people.

The prime objective of education in every social system is to serve the ruling class. The objective of feudal Ethiopia's education, as laid down by the reactionary system, ignored science and technology and gave emphasis to administrative discipline, and was designed to implant in your minds a feudal ideology, belief and outlook. It will be recalled that, as the feudal system allied itself to imperialism in order to prolong its existence, the educational system was under the influence of imperialism. As a result of the low priority given to education by the feudal system, by the time the revolution broke out, 93 percent of the population were illiterate, and only 16 percent of the country's primary school-age children were attending classes.

Since our objective is to liberate our people in general, and young people in particular, who are going to assume the responsibility of pushing the revolution forward from all types of unscientific beliefs and outlooks so as to broaden the general horizons of people's knowledge and arm them with Marxism-Leninism from the grass roots level, efforts have been made to broaden the learning opportunities, change the curriculum and dissociate it from imperialism.

Hence the preparation of a new curriculum, the replacement of all books from primary to advanced level with new ones and the effort made to indoctrinate teachers with Marxist ideology are encouraging. In addition, as the result of the effort to widen educational opportunities, the number of students at all levels of education is now triple that of the year 1974, and the campaign to eliminate illiteracy is to be highly commended.

Although the success achieved to date in the sphere of education is encouraging, the task of intensifying the literacy campaign and liberating the Ethiopian broad masses from illiteracy in a short period of time and the structuring of the country's educational system so as to serve the economic development of the country needs great effort.

Having studied the priority that has to be given to the construction of the socialist educational system, the second plenary session of COPWE's Central Committee has passed the following resolutions:

1. In order to expand education in the country along Marxist-Leninist lines, appropriate political and Marxist-Leninist education must be given with greater emphasis at all levels of education.

2. Even though the necessary curriculums are prepared and suitable books printed, unless the ideological clarity and efficiency of the teachers and the respect for the teaching profession have reached the necessary level, it is impossible to establish a socialist educational system. Hence, teachers should be given continuous ideological education, nd it should be proved that those selected for the teaching profession must be from amo.g those who are on the side of the masses.

3. In order to make education serve the economic development of the country and the practical implementation of the development strategy, scientific, technological, technical and vocational education should be given stronger emphasis.

4. In order to make schools places where young people can acquire practical knowledge as opposed to mere theoretical knowledge and develop the younger generation's respect for work and culture, high schools and higher vocational institutions should be engaged in productive activities which could at least enable them to cover their expenses in running such activities.

5. More emphasis should be given to the literacy campaign and the ideological clarity of the education given strengthened. Further education courses should be given those who have completed the literacy clases in order to enable them to widen their knowledge and improve their lives.

6. Besides the plan to eliminate illiteracy from the country, methods should be worked out to make primary education available to all Ethiopians of primary school age and the implementation of this should have priority.

In line with the rules and regulations governing the activities of the organization, and conscious of its responsibilities with regard to the selection, training, assignment, supervision and ideological enrichment of its members, the second regular session of COPWE has passed the following resolutions:

1. Measures should be taken to provide literacy and vocational training for illiterate members of the working masses and peasantry who have been recognized for their revolutionary contributions both before and since the eruption of the Ethiopian revolutions so as to improve their perception of socialist ideology and prepare them for membership of COPWE.

2. Emphasis should be given to the recruitment of members to COPWE on the basis of the existing guidelines and with particular attention to their revolutionary commitments, their past participation in the revolutionary struggle and the level of their communist discipline. The task of refining their Marxist-Leninist ideological views should be carried out by their respective discussion groups and study cells before they are considered for recruitment.

3. Marxist-Leninist managerial training programs should be initiated at once in order to equip COPWE members serving the organization in various capacities with the necessary skills needed for the efficient and effective running of its affairs.

4. Responsibilities should be assigned to COPWE members on the basis of experience and skill and periodic assessment of their efficiency and effectiveness.

5. The existing plan for improving the quality and quantity of members required to serve the organization in the fields of ideological and vocational training, agitation, propaganda and organizational work should be stepped up. [prolonged applause]

Since the further consolidation of the strengths of the trade union and the buttressing of its weaknesses provide an additional force for the acceleration of the process of construction, the COPWE Central Committee at its second regular session passed the following resolutions as regards strengthening the all-Ethiopian trade union:

1. In order to enable the consolidation of the structure of the all-Ethiopia trade union to take place in conformity with the stage of development our revolution has reached today and in a form that is more conducive to mass participation and control, the necessary preparations and urgent steps should be taken to begin the task of strengthening it.

2. In order to urgently organize trade unions that have been dissolved for various reasons and organize those workers who should have been organized but have not, all the necessary measures should be taken by the government and mass organizations concerned.

3. In view of the encouraging efforts made by the workers to increase production and expand social services in an organized manner, central guidelines on competition in socialist production should be prepared so as to ensure its better coordination.

Since conditions for making the broad peasant masses conscious participants in the functions of the associations have not been created, this situation has an impact on the development and consolidation of the associations. Since it has been found to be necessary to consolidate these associations and enhance the role they are playing in the revolution by removing these and other weaknesses, the second regular session of the Central Committee of COPWE has passed the following resolutions:

1. In accordance with the stage of development reached by our revolution, preparations to convene the third general assembly of the all-Ethiopian peasants association should be completed and urgent steps taken to consolidate the association.

2. In order to set up peasants associations which have not yet been formed or which have been dissolved for various reasons and to enable the peasants to make the necessary contribution to the revolution and reap more benefits from it, appropriate measures and efforts should be made by all the sectors concerned.

3. In order to further enhance the participation of the organized peasants in expanding social services in rural Ethiopia, the all-Ethiopia peasants association should be provided with the necessary leadership and support to issue a program of action in line with government plans. [applause]

Numbers of mothers and children suffer from malnutrition and lack of health care. The life expectancy of mothers is also declining as a result of overwork and lack of rest. The backward and reactionary habit of forcing girls to marry at a tender age, before biological maturity, still exists. This has caused our women complications in childbirth. Taking into consideration the above-mentioned problems and making due assessment, the second regular session of the COPWE Central Committee has passed the following resolutions:

1. All those concerned should strive to create favorable conditions for the training of women cadres for further implementation of the effort to improve conditions for women, solve their problems and enable them to take part in the national reconstruction and economic development and raise their social status.

2. The effort to undertake studies in a better coordinated manner so as to enable unemployed women, in particular prostitutes, to engage in useful, productive professions should be continued.

3. Most of revolutionary Ethiopia's women are illiterate and unskilled owing to the social and cultural oppression to which they have been subjected. This has been a hindrance to their involvement in different professions. All the necessary studies should be made to establish suitable training centers for women to train them in different professions, and efforts should be made to collectivize the already existing training centers so as to expand them for the achievement of this objective.

4. The eradication of the feudal order should include changing the mentality of the people of Ethiopia. Backward methods of doing things, reactionary and outdated thinking within the Ethiopian community should be erased from their minds. To achieve this all revolutionaries should embark on politicization and educational work.

5. To give the necessary assistance to the organization of Ethiopian women to enable them to play a greater role in the country, economic, social and cultural activities through their organization. [applause]

Taking into account the usefulness of youth organization for development and the need for the backing of all revolutionaries to create suitable conditions to enable young people to accomplish what is expected of them, the second regular session of the COPWE Central Committee has passed the following resolutions concerning young people:

1. To establish branches of the all-Ethiopia youth organization in the rural and urban areas, higher and lower educational institutions, factories and government offices, in the revolutionary army and so forth so as to enable COPWE to make the organization the basis of its leadership. The establishment of branches should be done with the utmost care and as soon as possible, and thus COPWE and all revolutionaries should make the necessary effort to organize all the young people in the country and strengthen their organization and also make the organization acceptable to all young people.

2. Although it is not easy to meet the needs of young people in the educational, entertainment and other spheres, proper and careful studies should be made by revolutionaries to consider the ability and capacity of the country to satisfy them.

3. To enable young people to play a greater part in the cultural and economic campaign in the country, short- and long-term plans should be drafted by **the** all-Ethiopia youth organization in cooperation with the National Revolutionary Cultural and Economic Campaign Central Planning Supreme Council.

4. To establish libraries, acquire revolutionary movies, books and other materials, and embark on an intense propaganda and politicization campaign to enable young people to be guided by Marxist-Leninist theories and protect them from being led astray by the false theories and propaganda of counterrevolutionary forces and the cultural invasion and political confusion of reactionaries.

5. To instill a sense of nationalism in the minds of young people to make them defend the motherland, to instill a sense of socialist revolutionary heroic fervor and make them prepared for any eventuality or any call from the revolutionary motherland--this is the duty of all revolutionaries and the necessary efforts should be made by them. [applause]

6. To make all the necessary preparations to enable revolutionary Ethiopia's youth to establish its organization at the national level. [sentence as heard]

7. COPWE should, in cooperation with the revolutionary government, make all the necessary efforts to enable young people to fulfill what is expected of them in line with the objectives of workers of the country and the all-Ethiopia trade union. [applause]

To enable urban dwellers" associations to overcome their weaknesses, be efficient and do what is expected of them in line with revolutionary development and growth, the second regular session of the COPWE Central Committee has passed the following resolutions:

1. All necessary measures should be taken to make the upcoming third elections of members of urban dwellers' associations effective.

2. The weaknesses of the urban dwellers associations result from inexperience and a lack of correct and up-to-date guidelines. Special attention should thus be paid to this matter. [prolonged applause]

Taking into account the unsatisfactory state of the established professional organizations and the need to improve and strengthen their performance. The second regular session of the COPWE Central Committee has passed the following resolutions:

1. Central guidelines should be prepared concerning the establishment, organization, structure and working conditions of professional organizations.

2. The already-established professional organizations should be strengthened in accordance with the new central guidelines.

3. Suitable conditions for the organization of professionals in professional organizations should be created. [applause]

In order to derive fruitful results from discussion forums and make them effective and beneficial, the second regular session of the COPWE Central Committee has passed the following resolutions:

1. To extend necessary assistance to the workers to enable them to develop their revolutionary participation in all spheres of the struggle by raising their consciousness through Marxist-Leninist ideology.

2. All those concerned should extend full backing to COPWE to enable it to succeed in its mission of establishing the party of the workers and the implementation of the new rules for discussion forums. [applause]

Considering the need to draft definitive strategies, tactics and guidelines based on the existing objective state of the country's economy so as to promote the task of reconstruction during the transition period, the COPWE Central Committee's second plenary session passed the following resolutions:

1. Although our economy's agricultural sector represents the source of capital needed to achieve the creation of the material and technical bases for the construction of the socialist economy, this aim cannot be brought to realization owing to the fragmentation and inferior organization affecting production in that sector. Thus, in order to raise the agricultural sector to a higher stage of productivity, to build socialist industrial relations, to guard against the revival of capitalism and to assure the victory of socialism in the rural areas, great attention must be devoted to expanding and strengthening the producers' associations. [applause]

2. To effect the expansion of the producers' associations, since these form the basis for the country's development, and to accelerate the growth of agricultural production, it will be necessary for:

A. the annual development budget to make increased provision for the producers' associations;

B. the producers' associations to be provided with better implements and social services to enhance their production;

C. institutions for training personnel of the necessary number and standard to be established and strengthened;

D. all revolutionaries to make intensified efforts to expand producers' associations in their respective areas.

3. Since industry has been given second priority after agriculture in the national economy, our industrial development plan must place first emphasis on light and cottage industries in order to increase gradually the contribution of industrial products toward the national economy, achieve the transformation of the country's economic structure, lay the foundations for the expansion of heavy industry and satisfy the growing material needs of the workers.

4. In order to improve the organization of the artisan industry, which is responsible for 50 percent of industrial output while remaining at a low level of competitiveness, great emphasis must be laid on achieving the consolidation and expansion of artisan producers' associations.

5. Since the country's energy-extracting capability is a major factor of industrial expansion and increasing the number of energy-producing plants is necessary to avoid obstructing the country's economic development, emphasis must be laid on establishing small, medium and large energy-producing plants using the country's natural resources such as water and steam.

6. In order to free industry from dependence and to accumulate capital sufficient for the creation of a strong socialist economy, immediate steps must be taken to find and exploit minerals by prospecting for, studying and developing our country's great mineral resources.

7. The shortage of basic consumer goods and their increased prices are caused not only by the small supply of output but also by improper distribution and consumption. Thus in order to strengthen the socialist trade sector and liberate the working people from the exploitation of traders, all government and mass organizations concerned with the distribution of goods should be consolidated.

8. In this phase of constructing a socialist economy, in order to develop productive forces, increase the productivity of the workers and expand science and technology together with the struggle to change the relations of production, research work should be expanded, concentrating on the country's problems, especially in the agricultural sector.

9. In order to guide scientifically the country's economic development based on the economic rules of transition and to ensure that the existing relations between the different sectors of the economy help the establishment of a socialist society, it is important to be guided by a long-term development plan. Thus the 10-year development plan, which is under study, should be based on a planned development strategy and preparations for the plan should be completed and its implementation should be speeded up in order to accomplish the program of the democratic revolution.

10. In order to increase the practical participation of the organized masses in the preparation and execution of plans in accordance with the principle of democratic centralism by strengthening and improving the broad central planning structure, and in view of the decisive role a central plan plays in guiding and managing the national economy in the socialist society which we are building, conditions should be created to make the offices and organizations involved in the execution abide by the working discipline demanded by central planning.

11. In order to overcome present economic management problems and obtain the necessary management support for the historic and advancing construction [of socialism], an institute should be set up to coordinate research, advisory services and testing programs. [applause]

In view of the seriousness of this problem the second regular session of the COPWE Central Committee has passed the following resolutions:

1. To promote the cooperation of the masses in all the efforts being made to alleviate the problem by informing the working people of the difficulties created for the national economy by rising oil prices, especially in so far as foreign exchange is concerned.

2. Since a great deal of the foreign exchange we earn from external trade is spent on oil, we should propagandize and motivate society to conserve petroleum.

In order to eradicate the problems created by financial deficits, the second regular session of the COPWE Central Committee has passed the following resolutions:

1. Government organizations should carry out their functions economically and efficiently, thus reducing their expenditure.

2. A great effort should be made to collect government revenues efficiently and on time.

3. In order to overcome the adverse effects on foreign exchange and income caused by increased smuggling, the government organizations involved in the provision of industrial goods and the purchase of peasants' produce in the border areas should be strengthened with extra finance and manpower.

4. Revolutionaries, government and mass organizations should make a great effort to put an end to smuggling. [applause]

In view of the seriousness of this problem, the second regular session of the COPWE Central Committee passed the following resolutions:

1. Since improving the quantity, variety and quality of the products we export is the only way to alleviate the shortage of foreign exchange earnings, we should carry out a special major campaign this year and in the coming years.

A. We should increase and improve the quantity and quality of output in the agricultural sector, the major source of foreign exchange earnings.

B. Government and mass organizations should make a great effort to timely collection and transportation of export goods.

2. Propaganda should be carried out among the masses to make them aware of the special campaign to save and increase foreign exchange earnings, and to increase productivity more than ever before.

3. Imported goods should, as far as possible, be replaced by locally-produced items. [applause]

Bearing in mind the serious damage the destruction of forests causes to geological features of the land, wild animals and increased productivity, the second regular session of the COPWE Central Committee passed the following resolutions:

1. To draft a program and work for its proper implementation within the framework of the country's 10-year development plan for the prevention of soil erosion, the promotion of reforestation, and the conservation of wildlife.

2. To develop forest resources in the country in order to cope with and minimize natural calamaties. All revolutionaries should make efforts to increase the country's forests by means of coordinated campaign and by encouraging farmers to plant trees.

3. To increase the manpower and organizational structure of the forestry department to enable it to increase the number of seedlings planted, take care of planted seedlings and distribute seedlings to the public for planting.

4. To undertake and step up research and studies to increase forest resources in the country. [applause]

In order to develop the youth of the new Ethiopia both mentally and physically, and strengthen the campaign of vaccination to eradicate various diseases, the second regular session of the COPWE Central Committee passed the following resolutions:

1. To increase manpower and strengthen the organizational structure of the vaccination campaign in order to eradicate the diseases afflicting Ethiopian youth.

2. All public organizations and the broad masses in general should take part in and strive for the politicization and educational campaign for the successes of the vaccination campaign. [applause]

Bearing in mind the seriousness of the unemployment situation, the second regular session of the COPWE Central Committee passed the following resolutions:

1. To train all those who have attended school but are not now employed, so as to cope with the shortage of manpower in all development sectors.

2. To create opportunities for employment by expanding reforestation and cottage industries, as well as expanding and strengthening producers' cooperatives and public organizations.

3. To deploy all unskilled workers in construction work to help speed up rural development.

4. All economic development projects should, as far as possible, be able to absorb manpower and create employment. [applause]

To fight inequality and exploitation, which are contrary to development and prosperity, the second regular session of the COPWE Central Committee passed the following resolutions:

1. To devise ways and means of enabling the workers to play his full part in the control of wealth and property through organizations, and enable him to defend himself against his enemies in this regard. [applause]

2. To take the necessary measures to keep proper accounts of the property and wealth belonging to government offices and public organizations, the collection of taxes, and to organize government offices and public organizations properly.

3. To undertake, with the cooperation of the public, an intensified campaign to bring to account those who receive and give bribes, robbers and tricksters, for quick and decisive retribution. [lengthy applause]

In view of the need to focus special attention on bringing nomads into the country's economic life, the efforts being made in this regard and future plans regarding the nomadic life, the second regular session of the COPWE Central Committee passed the following resolutions:

1. To plan ways to transform the life of the nomadic population in line with the overall economic development plan for the country.

2. To establish a coordinated settlement plan in line with the livestock development practices of the nomads, and to organize the nomads in producers' cooperatives.

3. To establish a centralized system of work to follow up and coordinate the development activities of the nomadic population. [applause]

Bearing in mind the need to strengthen the defensive capability of the country to counter the threat of attack by imperialists and internal and external reactionary forces, and bearing in mind the need to be prepared for all eventualities, the second regular session of the COPWE Central Committee passed the following resolutions:

1. We must rapidly organize our defense forces in order to defend ourselves against enemy aggression. This determines the fate of the revolution. Therefore, the reinforcement of our revolutionary army in its organization, personnel and weapons should continue within a new framework. [applause]

2. Our defensive capability does not depend only on the members of the revolutionary army. It requires the positive participation of all workers. The defense of the country is a history of heroism in which, during the years of recent struggle, all revolutionaries and patriots took part. It is very important to prepare the worker for all emergencies and attacks against the motherland. Therefore, a national military service scheme in which all revolutionary citizens and patriots would be able to defend their revolutionary motherland from aggressors should be rapidly implemented. [lengthy applause]

3. A civil defense system should be established in which the worker would be able to defend himself in case of war and manmade or natural calamities. Guidelines for this should be drafted as soon as possible.

4. All supporters of the revolution should be vigilant wherever they may be, in defense of the country against all eventualities and the conspiracies of internal and external enemies. [lengthy applause]

In order to end the activities of secessionist bandits, which run counter to our revolution, the second regular session of the COPWE Central Committee passed the following resolutions:

1. To guarantee peace in the north by rooting out counterrevolutionary and antiunity bandits, thus denying imperialism its allies. [applause]

2. To integrate all those who surrender and return to the revolutionary fold after repenting their past misdeeds into the workers' life of constructing a new society, and allow them to play a full part in the reconstruction of the economy. [applause]

3. The second regular session of the COPWE Central Committee calls on the supporters of the broad masses in the Eritrean administrative region to unite their arms with those of the revolutionary army and rise up, so as to be completely rid of the bandits who have subjected them to untold suffering, and thereby renew their proud history as did the broad masses in eastern and southern Ethiopia who dealt a crushing blow to the bandits and the troops of Siad Barre in those parts of our country. [lengthy applause]

Following our policies of proletarian internationalism and peaceful coexistence, the second regular session of the COPWE Central Committee passed the following resolutions:

1. Since the victories of revolution are determined by the unity of the forces of socialism, and considering the need to further strengthen the socialist system, international communism and the working-class movement, and our solidarity of struggle with the party, government and people of the Soviet Union--the defender of the whole socialist camp and all the liberation movements--and with the friendly socialist countries and their vanguard parties which stood by our side and that of other forces fighting for true independence, should be further strengthened and developed.

2. Since our revolution is part of the world socialist revolution, our victories cannot be viewed separately. Therefore, in order to effectively counter the imperialist's and counterrevolutionary forces' attacks on our front, we should strengthen our capability and our solidarity with our allies.

3. The Ethiopian broad masses, with the assistance of the solidarity of proletarian internationalism, have won highly prestigious victories in the past years of bitter struggle. Nevertheless, our economy--which we inherited from the reactionary social system--is backward and has been further weakened by the sabotage and aggression of reactionaries. Therefore, in order for the economy to recover within a short period of time and attain rapid development, and to build socialism on a firm foundation, we should endeavor to obtain higher technical and scientific assistance, especially from the friendly socialist countries and all those who support our objectives.

SOMALIA

MOGADISHU VIEWS AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH U.S.

LD171234 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 16 Feb 81 EA

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The agreement signed between the U.S. Government and the Somalia Democratic Republic is not aimed at anyone but is based on mutual friendship and (?cooperation). A U.S. congressman by the name of Howard Wolpe, who is the chairman of the African affairs subcommittee, last week talked on several issues.

This man urged the U.S. government to (?reduce) its military strength and also to seriously review its agreement with the Somali Democratic Republic. This man argued that he feared that weapons supplied to the Somali Democratic Republic might find their way to (?western Somalia). This fear is shared only by him and [words indistinct].

Mr Wolpe should, therefore, take clear note of the following points: The agreement reached between the U.S. and Somali Governments was reached by two independent countries without interference from any third party. Mr Wolpe should also know that before signing the agreement, the U.S. and Somali Governments studied and scrutinized its implications in depth. What he should also know is that no Somali Government troops are present or involved in the fighting between the Western Somali Liberation Front and the Abyssinians. This has been further verified during the visit to the Somali Democratic Republic of a high-level American delegation which studied the issue and did some research on it. [short passage indistinct] There is no independent country in the world that does not safeguard its sovereignty. The Somali Government therefore has a right to safeguard and defend its sovereignty just as any other country would defend its security and sovereignty. It is not Somalia's intention to [words indistinct]. The question to be asked is: What has made Mr Wolpe interpret the agreement in such a way? The answer: America is a free country with democratic principles so Mr Wolpe has every right to speak his mind. However, what can be sensed from his statement is the influence of documents given him by parties working for the interests of the Abyssinians and their allies, who oppose cooperation and friendship between the Somali and U.S. Governments.

These parties are envious of the dedication with which the Somalia Democratic Republic safeguards and defends its country, people and sovereignty, this being the objective of any country.

If this is not the case, what is stopping Mr Wolpe from coming to Somalia to see for himself what is going on in this region? There are no Somali troops involved in the Western Somali Liberation Front struggle and they have no intention of joining it.

And the agreement signed by the U.S. and Somali Governments is an agreement between two sovereign states, namely the United States and Somalia, and is not meant to be used as a conspiracy against any state. Mr Wolpe should know that it is the people of the Somali Democratic Republic who constantly suffer provocations and it is their sovereignty which is being endangered. These acts of provocation include constant and naked aggression by the Abyssinian forces, with the help of foreign forces and weapons, which have lately been (?on the increase) in Abyssinia.

PRESIDENT RENEWS AMNESTY OFFER TO EXILES

LD142329 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1850 GMT 14 Feb 81 EA

[Excerpts] [passage omitted on Said Barre remarks at justice day rally in which he congratulates the justice ministry and comments on the need for everyone to observe civil laws and rights] Challe Siad said that although we are all equal under justice and it is essential for everyone to respect the rights of those with whom he lives, the rights of the society and the rights of the masses are paramount. It is the sacred duty of everyone to respect the laws of the nation while taking into consideration the protection of the rights and respect of the masses against the few individuals who are bent toward injustice.

The president called upon various departments who are entrusted with maintaining law and order in the country and those others who have been assigned to exercise justice to believe in justice and not to overstep the rights of the general public, while at the same time maintaining law and order. Challe Siad Barre called upon the judges not only to hear court cases and sentence criminals to prison but also to look for corrective measures which are in line with the traditions of the country.

To commemorate this occasion Challe Siad once again extended amnesty to those who have committed offenses against the country and who are outside the country. He called upon them to take advantage of this pardon and return home, while refraining from the bad acts they have committed against the country. The president announced that the aims and objectives of the October revolution are to be united and to outgrow divisive activities, the scorn of foreigners, and cheap activities that might harm unity, progress and prosperity.

TANZANIA

NYERERE CRITICIZES FRENCH TROOPS IN AFRICA

LD161326 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 0700 GMT 16 Feb 81 EA

[Text] Paris--President Nyerere has criticized the presence of foreign troops in Africa and has singled out France as the prime offender. In an interview published in Paris yesterday, the president said we have often heard complaints about the presence of Soviet and Cuban troops in Angola and Ethiopia but we have not heard any criticism concerning the presence of French troops in African countries.

President Nyerere defended the presence of Soviet and Cuban troops in Angola and Ethiopia by saying that they were invited to defend those countries from external aggression. Mwalimu also said that the presence of Tanzanian troops in Uganda was the result of Uganda's request to safeguard peace and security following disturbances which broke out at the end of the war of liberation.

CAMEROON

AUTHORITIES WARN CHADIAN REFUGEES ON 'SUBVERSION'

AB150817 Paris AFP in French 0734 GMT 15 Feb 81

[Text] Kousseri (Northern Cameroon) 15 Feb (AFP)--The Cameroonian authorities on Friday morning asked the Chadians who had taken refuge in their territory to refrain from transforming Cameroonian soil into a base for subversion.

During a meeting held in Kousseri, a town in the north of Cameroon situated on the bank of the Chari River across from Ndjamena, and which was attended by about a hundred Chadian cadres, without distinction as to political or military faction, who had taken refuge in this town, Mr Ousmane Mey stated that he had formal proof that certain Chadian refugees wished to participate in activities which did not conform with the laws of the country. He therefore asked these Chadians, in the name of his government, to stop using Cameroonian soil to sow trouble, not only in Cameroon, but in other countries. The governor, after reminding them that Cameroon had always been and would continue to remain neutral in the Chadian affair, stressed his country's willingness to safeguard peace.

This is the first time since the arrival of the first Chadian refugees in Cameroon in February 1979, that the Cameroonian authorities have addressed their guests in such a direct manner.

CHAD

TRIPOLI SAYS RELATIONS WITH EGYPT TO BE SEVERED

LD171314 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] Ndjamena--The Chadian Government has decided to break off political relations with the Egyptian regime. This was announced by Chadian Foreign Minister Ahmat Acyl in a statement to a JANA correspondent.

A statement issued by the Chadian Foreign Ministry says that this decision was reached because of the Egyptian regime's hostile attitude to the Chadian people and the realization of their security and stability. The statement condemned the attempts of the Egyptian delegation at the Nonaligned Foreign Ministers Conference in New Delhi to misrepresent the relationship between the Jamahiriyah and Chad.

ZAIRE

MOBUTU ORDERS SUSPENSION OF EDUCATION MINISTER

AB140936 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 14 Feb 81

[Text] On the orders of the founding chairman of the MPR, and president of the republic, President Mobutu Sese Seko, the state commissioner for higher education and scientific research, Citizen Djelo Yempenge, is suspended from his functions until further notice for grave irregularities in the exercise of his duties. This was disclosed yesterday evening at the end of the Executive Council meeting.

BENIN

GUINEA'S SEKOU TOURE ARRIVES IN CONTONOU 16 FEB

AB171007 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 16 Feb 81

[Excerpts] The militant people of the People's Republic of Benin this afternoon received an illustrious guest: He is the Guinean head of state, Comrade Ahmmed Sekou Toure, who was accompanied by a large delegation. President Sekou Toure, who has just begun a friendly working visit to our country, was received by our great comrade in arms, President Kerekou, as well as by the members of the Central Committee of the Beninese People's Revolutionary Party, those of the National Executive Council and the National Assembly and several cadres and militants of our revolution. Talking to a reporter of Radio Benin in the VIP lounge of the airport, President Toure reiterated to the Beninese people his appeal to strengthen their political unity in order to deepen the revolutionary process of national liberation launched on 26 October 1972.

[Begin Toure recording] We invite the hard-working masses who constitute the backbone of the people's revolution to strengthen their unity within the Beninese People's Revolutionary Party. I am referring to the militant workers of all categories-- the militant peasants, artisans, women and youth as well as the militants in uniform of the Beninese People's Army [words indistinct]. We exclude, of course, all those who would like to live through the exploitation of theit fellow men by telling lies and deceiving and robbing the people. The struggle is therefore clear: It is a class struggle involving the entire nation--a struggle which will produce new men and give the people a constantly increasing dimension.

This struggle must mobilize all intellects and forces within the front for democratic and social progress to fight against exploitation and oppression. We know that all young revolutions always meet difficulties created within and outside by the enemies of African progress. One must never be discouraged when one's cause is just. Our cause is just: We want to elimirate all the vestiges of colonial domination.

Departure for Cameroon

AB172045 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Excerpt] President Ahmed Sekou Toure left Cotonou this morning for Cameroon where he is continuing his state visit.

CHADIAN ENVOY DELIVERS MESSAGE TO KEREKOU

AB180918 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] President Kerekou this morning received in audience (Mbayelenda Nganiayame), secretary general at the Presidency of the Transitional National Union Government of Chad [GUNT]. The Chadian envoy disclosed to the press that he delivered a message to the head of state from the vice president of the GUNT in view of the fact that President Kerekou has been (?working for) the happy settlement of the situation in Chad--a situation which, he said, calls for contacts and exact information on the evolution of the Chadian affair.

On the different news circulated by the western press, the Chadian envoy simply said: There are sometimes predictions which are not (?fulfilled).

CAPE VERDE

ANGOLAN DEFENSE MINISTER ARRIVES IN PRAIA

AB171433 Paris AFP in English 1306 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] Praia, Cape Verde Islands, Feb 17 (AFP)--Angolan Defense Minister Pedro Maira Tanha arrived here today for a visit, during which he is expected to have talks on defense cooperation between Angola and the Cape Verde Islands. Mr. Tanha is expected to have talks with President Aristides Pereira and Premier Pedro Pires.

The two states are both former Portuguese colonies.

PREMIER REVEALS GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMIC PRIORITIES

AB171147 Paris AFP in French 0944 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] Praia, 17 February (AFP)--In presenting his government's program to the National Assembly in Praia on Monday, Mr Pedro Pires, the Cape Verdian prime minister, said that the economic priorities of Cape Verde during the next 5 years will be the development of production and the limiting of external imbalance.

The development of productive capacity and production, he said, will be undertaken by implementation and the intensifying the program for the preservation and the restoration of lands, by water and afforestation policies, by increasing the area irrigated and through agrarian reform. According to Mr Pires, it will also be necessary to develop small-scale fishing and create agro-industrial units for the home market.

To limit external imbalance, Cape Verde, a country where drought is endemic and where exports cover hardly 6 percent of imports, will develop the exportation of agricultural and industrial products and will attempt to become a stopping point for planes and ships, Mr Pires said. To this end, Cape Verde, he pointed out, will set up a boat repair workshop and will improve the infrastructures of Sal Airport.

In addition, Mr Pires announced the drawing up of a development plan for the 1982-1985 period. This plan, he said, would include the creation of an organization for the coordination, support and control of public and joint firms and the development of the cooperative sector.

GAMBIA

GHANA'S LIMANN SPEAKS UPON ARRIVAL IN BANJUL

AB171945 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] President Limann has arrived in Banjul at the beginning of a 4-day official visit to Gambia and Senegal. In a speech at the welcoming ceremony, President Limann expressed the hope that the peace and stability, which the Gambia has enjoyed since her independence, will soon be extended to those parts of Africa struggling for political liberation. He praised the Gambia for maintaining the long-standing bonds of friendship between her and Ghana. Dr Limann hoped the visit would afford him and President Jawara the opportunity to discuss bilateral issues, ECOWAS, the OAU and developments in the world. The president thanked his host for inviting him to attend the Gambia's 16th independence anniversary as the guest of honor.

Dr Limann was accompanied by the minister of foreign affairs, Dr Chinebuah; the minister of finance and economic planning, Dr Benneh; and the founder and father of the People's National Party, Alhaji Imoro Egala.

GUINEA

GUINEA-BISSAU PRESIDENT MAKES 6-HOUR VISIT

AB171550 Paris AFP in French 0744 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] Dakar, 17 Feb (AFP)--The president of Guinea-Bissau, Maj Joao Bernardo Vieira, has paid a short 6 hour official and friendly visit to Guinea, it is reported by Radio Conakry monitored in Dakar.

The radio gives no details either on the visit or on the talks held between Major Vieira and President Sekou Toure of Guinea.

The Republic of Guinea (Conakry) was the first country to recognize the new authorities of Bissau following the coup d'etat which toppled former President Luiz Cabral on 14 November 1980.

GUINEA-BISSAU

ZAIRIANS ARRESTED FOR PLOTTING AGAINST EXILES

AB141148 Paris AFP in English 1006 GMT 14 Feb 81

[Text] Bissau, 14 Feb (AFP)--An air force captain led the group of eight Zairians arrested here on suspicion of plotting to assassinate exiled General Nathaniel Mbumba, who reportedly led the Shaba rebellions against President Mobutu Sese Seko, reliable sources said.

The sources, close to the Interior Ministry of Guinea-Bissau, did not disclose the captain's name.

After an inquiry, the eight men will be sent back to Zaire, the sources said. They said leniency would be shown because it was the first action of its kind, but that further attempts would be severely punished. The arrests were reported in Lisbon Wednesday by the Portuguese news agency.

Gen Mbumba was seen as the main organizer of the invasions of Zaire's mineral-rich Shaba Province in 1977 and 1978, which Gen Mobutu was able to put down only with assistance from France, Belgium, Morocco and the United States.

Gen Mbumba and several dozen of his Katangan gendarmes--Shaba was known as Katanga in the days of its secession from the then-Congo in the early 1960's--had to leave Angola, where they were based, in 1979 after Zaire and Angola signed a mutual non-interference agreement.

Angola agreed not to harbor anti-Mobutu groups and Zaire consented not to help the anti-government Angolan national liberation front of Holden Roberto. Gen Mbumba, his men and their families were then granted asylum in Guinea-Bissau.

LIBERIA

PAPER SAYS ANY AFRICAN TO BE GIVEN CITIZENSHIP

AB172010 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1900 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] The government-owned NEW LIBERIAN newspaper disclosed in Monrovia today that the new PRC [People's Redemption Council] decree which would accord Liberian citizenship to any African without going through legal proceedings is to be issued by government shortly. The decree, when (?formulated), is expected to benefit any African wishing to live and work in Liberia as a Liberian citizen.

The paper quoted justice minister, Chea Cheapoo, as saying that he hoped the decree would abolish paper requirements as well as resident and work permits for other Africans before staying in Liberia [words indistinct] as a further step to confirm and affirm the ECOWAS protocol which provides for free movement of west African citizens in the region.

NIGER

TOGOLESE PRESIDENT SPEAKS ON WAR, DEVELOPMENT

AB171903 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Excerpts] On the third day of his official visit to Niger, Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema, the Togolese head of state and founding chairman of the Togolese Peoples' Rally, has been in Dosso since this morning. General Eyadema, who is accompanied on his visits by President Seyni Kountche, left Zinder this morning for Dosso. In his welcoming address, Major (Ibrahima Sah), prefect of the region, greeted the wise and eminent Eyadema.

Replying to the welcoming address of the prefect of Dosso, Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema particularly thanked the people of the region for its touristic richness and fine horsemen. Continuing his speech, the Togolese head of state did not hide his joy in the face of unity and stability which has been prevailing in Niger under the leadership of His Excellency Col Seyni Kountche.

[Begin Eyadema recording] The independence we achieved 20 years ago is only political independence, true independence--economic independence--can only be achieved if there is peace and political stability and especially, we must all look in the same direction--the direction of economic development. And this is what we have done. I was just telling Brother Kountche in the automobile that your leadership is similar to ours, for when in 1967 we responded to the Togolese people's call by taking over the reins of government in our country, we first of all tried to restore peace and reconciliation. We said that national reconstruction is not one man's affair but the concern of every citizen. Thus, after our national reconciliation, we proceeded with the urgent task of economic development. First of all, we realized, like President Kountche and his regime, that a regime is never judged by the number of years in power, but any regime is judged by the number of achievements, for tomorrow the regime will disappear but the achievements will remain. [applause]

My visit to your country comes at a time when Africa, our Africa, is shaken by military conflicts. We in Togo often often say that each problem has its own solution and that is why since my arrival in your great and beautiful country, President Kountche and I have been trying to examine together all these problems, which are not one man's problems. We, the leaders of Africa today, should reexamine ourselves, for no war has ever benefited the African Continent. The African Continent does not manufacture arms; we do not have arms factories in Africa. What should concern us foremost now is the development of our respective countries, the development of Africa. Our resources are limited and these resources should go to their true owners, that is, our peoples. [applause] We, therefore, have no right to repatriate these resources to Europe in search of arms. [end recording]

NIGERIA

ANGOLAN DEFENSE MINISTER ARRIVES FOR 1-DAY TALKS

AB161341 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 16 Feb 81

[Text] The Angolan defense minister, Col Pedro Maria Tonha, has arrived in Lagos for talks with the minister of defense, Alhaji Akanbi Oniyangi. The Angolan minister is scheduled to leave for home later in the day.

LORD CARRINGTON ARRIVES IN LAGOS FOR 2-DAY VISIT

AB180933 Paris AFP in French 0920 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Text] Lagos, 18 February (AFP)--Lord Carrington, the British foreign secretary, arrived in Lagos on Wednesday morning from London for a 2-day official visit to Nigeria. The minister, who is accompanied by a delegation of British industrialists and businessmen, was met on arrival by Professor Ishaya Audu, the Nigerian minister of foreign affairs.

This morning Lord Carrington will call on the minister of foreign affairs and the minister of defense, Mr Akambi Oniyangi. In the afternoon he will hold talks with the minister of industries, Mr Adamu Ciroma.

Lord Carrington will leave Lagos on Friday morning at 1000 for Abidjan where he will spend the day.

SHAGARI TELLS JALLUD LIBYANS MUST LEAVE CHAD

AB171937 Paris AFP in French 1640 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] Lagos, 17 Fed (AFP)--President Shehu Shagari of Nigeria will only agree to meet the Libyan leader, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, if Libya pulls its troops out of Chad, a source close to the Foreign Ministry in the Nigerian capital said today. That message was spelled out clearly to Libya's visiting deputy chief of state 'Abd as-Salam Jallud during 8 hours of talks with Mr Shagari here on Saturday, the sources added.

Libya must simply get out. If the Libyans decide to stay, we shall have to think of alternatives to get them out, the sources said. The Nigerians, according to the same source, also called for guarantees from Libya that it will accept free and fair elections in Chad as a condition for such a meeting.

Nigerian diplomats here, meanwhile, said that the French factor was as disturbing as the Libyan factor in attempts to secure agreement on the future of Chad, a former French colony.

Libya, for its part, is demanding that France should publicly announce the withdrawal of French troops from the CAR, one of Chad's southern neighbors. It also insisted that France should publicly undertake not to interfere in Chad's internal affairs.

Major Jallud himself was said to be generally favorable to the idea of an African peacekeeping force. Reliable Nigerian sources said that this force, at the request of the Nigerian Government, should be made up of troops from Cameroon, Niger and possibly Algeria.

The source, close to the Nigerian Foreign Ministry, meanwhile, said that Nigeria has officially been asked to host a new OAU conference on Chad. This conference would bring together the 13 states that signed the 1979 Lagos accord on a Chadian settlement and the different Chadian political and military factions, the sources added. We Nigerians at the moment prefer to explore all the possibilities available through bilateral rather than multilateral negotiations, the source said.

The Lagos accord set up the present Transitional National Union Government of Chad that brought [words indistinct].

Mr Shagari and Major Jallud, who was accompanied by Libyan Foreign Minister at-Turayki, were also understood to have discussed the possible reopening of the Libyan embassy here closed down more than a month ago. Nigerian sources here told Major Jallud that it would agree on the return of a Libyan diplomatic mission to Lagos but not the reopening of a Libyan people's bureau of the Jamahiriya.

GOVERNMENT PLEDGES AID TO FIGHT APARTHEID

AB141007 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 14 Feb 81

[Text] The federal government has again pledged its unflinching support for the liberation movements in southern Africa. An official statement in Lagos said Nigeria would assist the nationalists fighters with all the resources at her disposal. The statement condemned apartheid South Africa for its persistent and unprovoked military attacks on Mozambique as well as other frontline states of Angola and Zambia. It described the raids as a violation of internal norms, adding that they were also calculated to destablize the frontline states.

LEGISLATORS PASS TWO INTERNAL SECURITY MEASURES

AB161545 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 16 Feb 81

[Excerpt] Two motions dealing with the internal security of the nation were passed by the House of Representatives today. One of them, which was sponsored by the leader of the house, Alhaji (Inusa Kaltingo), called for the setting up of a joint ad hoc committee of the National Assembly to investigate the growing wave of armed robbery and violence in the country. The motion said that the committee should be made up of 12 members from each arm of the assembly. The other motion directed the house committee on internal affairs to examine the functions of the Immigration Department in order to find out areas that require improvement. The mover, Alhaji (Hassan Mohamed), from Bauchi State, explained that he was disturbed by the apparent inability of the Immigration Department to check the influx of aliens into the country.

KANO MUSLIMS REPORTEDLY REGROUPING, BUYING ARMS

AB171347 Paris AFP in English 1340 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] Lagos, 17 Feb (AFP)--Police have warned that the Moslem sect that was behind bloody religious riots in the northern city of Kano in December is regrouping, Nigerian newspapers said here today.

The sect followers, who were driven from Kano by troops after clashes in which upwards of 1,000 people were reportedly killed, had also been buying arms, the newspapers added.

A police statement, quoted by the newspapers, said that a Chadian had been arrested near the home of Mohammed Marwa (alias Maitatsine), the slain leader of the sect.

The suspected arms dealer, who was named as Abubakar Sheriff, had been arrested when he was selling three automatic pistols and 55 rounds of nine millimetre ammunition, the papers added.

Police have appealed to the Kano public to come forward with information about any known criminals in their area.

SENEGAL

UNRESTRICTED MULTI-PARTY POLITICS CALLED FOR

AB131113 Paris AFP in English 1047 GMT 13 Feb 81

[Text] Dakar, 13 Feb (AFP)--A return to unrestricted multi-party politics, new elections and formation of a government of national unity have been proposed by Senegal's opposition National Democratic Assembly (RND) as necessary to bring the country out of its present crisis.

The policy was outlined in the party's official organ TAXAW.

The RND, led by Sheikh Anta Diop, has not been legally recognized since its formation in 1976. He is seen as a possible first candidate to benefit from the political opening announced by President Abdou Diouf following his succession to Leopold Sedar Senghor on January 1.

Prime Minister Habib Thiam said on January 30 that constitutional articles limiting the number of parties in the West African state to four were to be modified to allow the recognition of other representative political organizations.

The four parties presently recognized in Senegal are the ruling Socialist Party, the Democratic Senegalese Party (liberal), the African Independence Party (communist) and the Senegalese Republican Movement (conservative).

TOGO

EYADEMA RECEIVES ENVOYS FROM CHAD'S KAMOUGUE

AB150841 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 14 Feb 81

[Text] The founding chairman of the Togolese People's Rally and President of the republic, Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema, this morning received in his private residence in the second district of Lome two envoys of the vice president of the Transitional National Union Government of Chad, Col Abdelkader Kamougue. The two envoys, Mr Mbailemdana Ngarnayal and Mr [name indistinct] former minister of finance and former ambassador, respectively, presented to President Eyadema a message from Col Kamougue. According to Mr Mbailemdana the message is on the evolution of the situation in Chad [words indistinct] Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema.

[Begin recording] [Mbailemdana] First of all, we will seize the opportunity to thank the Togolese authorities for the brotherly welcome they gave us. The president of the republic received us [words indistinct] and this meeting enabled us to present to him a message from his counterpart, Colonel Kamougue, vice president of the Transitional National Union Government.

[Question] Your Excellency, would it possible for you to reveal the contents of the message.

[Answer] [Words indistinct]. As you know it is not my duty to reveal the contents of the message. It is my duty to [words indistinct], but I think that in view of the evolution of the situation prevailing presently in Chad, it is quite normal for the Chadian authorities to give fuller information to President Eyadema who, as you know, (?has a keen interest in events in Chad) and has been very active in the search for solutions to the Chadian problem. The president has always been on the side of his Chadian brothers in trying to find an honorable solution for Chad, first of all, and for the whole of Africa, so I think that the message (?falls within that framework).

[Question] Your Excellency, you have just arrived from Chad. Could you tell us the situation prevailing in Chad at the moment?

[Answer] In fact the situation there is very peaceful. I must point out that (?since the seizure) of Ndjamena, we are now living in the hope of rebuilding our country in harmony. But as you know the presence of the Libyan troops in Chad is a new factor in the problem and as many Chadians still believe in the Lagos accord, we think that in this framework there should be multiple contacts in order to get Libya to respect the commitments that it made together with the other African countries. [end recording]

ANGOLA

ENVOY VIEWS NAMIBIAN SITUATION, TIES WITH FRANCE

LD171541 Paris LE CONTINENT in French 13 Feb 81 p 4

[Unattributed report on press conference given by Angolan ambassador to France Lius de Almeida in Paris on 12 February; "Angolan Warning to West Over Namibia"]

[Text] Paris--Angola has issued a strong warning to the Western countries that are trying to find a solution to the Namibian problem. "Should the United States make the grave mistake of supporting South Africa, France, the FRG, Britain and Canada would also bear responsibility for it," Angolan Ambassador to Paris Luis de Almeida warned. Speaking at a press conference on 12 February Mr de Almeida stated that his country does not believe that the United States could go it alone--by separating itself from its four allies in the contact group on Namibia--"on a problem which has long since become a world problem and not just a regional one."

Recalling that Angola is not actively involved in a conflict which is between South Africa and the Namibian people, he stated that his country is prepared for "any sacrifice" to help SWAPO liberate Namibia.

Mr de Almeida's remarks were all the more solemn since he was making a farewell speech during which he reviewed Angola's 5 years of independence and his own 2-year mission in France. The ambassador is in fact preparing to return to his country where a ministerial portfolio apparently awaits him.

Contrasting with the warm words used to describe economic and political relations with France (to which we will return), the ambassador launched a very harsh attack on the new U.S. administration. "President Ronald Reagan is surrounded by people who, in their writings and statements, are inclined to support apartheid," he stated. Naming Chester Crocker, assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Mr de Almeida said he sees the change in Washington as the reason why South Africa, feeling encouraged, brought about the failure of the Geneva meeting on Namibia. Pretoria should, however, understand that all wars end in negotiations, he said, stating that his country is still prepared to "work through diplomatic channels to find a political solution to the war in Namibia."

However, he added, reviewing the "daily attacks" to which his country has been subjected by South Africa since 1976, that "all the indications are that we are going to witness major upheavals in southern Africa."

The destruction caused by the Pretoria army during its occupation of Angolan territory in 1975-1976 amount to $6.7 million.

From the withdrawal of South African forces on 27 March 1976 to 11 June 1979 there were more than 195 armed operations, 21 border provocations, 7 intensive air bombings and a large-scale helicopter-borne operation at Cassinga in which more than 600 people were killed. Since June 1979 Mr de Almeida said, there has been "an unprecedented military escalation causing enormous loss of human life among the Angolan civilian population and also enormous economic losses in several southern provinces." According to the ambassador, Pretoria is waging an "undeclared war" on Angola to destabilize the Angolan regime and to try to prevent it from supporting SWAPO.

Expressing satisfaction at relations between France and Angola since the visit to Luanda by Foreign Minister Jean Francois-Poncet and a French parliamentary delegation, Mr de Almeida said he thinks France "not only can, but must, play a major role in southern Africa." Owing to its "direct and friendly relations with Pretoria and its important economic interests in Namibia and South Africa, Paris could induce greater understanding in the South African Government, he concluded.

MADAGASCAR

OPPOSITION LEADER CONDEMNS RECENT STUDENT RIOTS

AB161217 Paris AFP in English 1208 GMT 16 Feb 81

[Text] Antananarivo, 16 Feb (AFP)--Monja Jaona, leader of the banned left-wing Malagasy Monima Party, has condemned the violent student demonstrations here on February 3, which left five people dead and 44 injured. Mr. Jaona, 73, who is under house arrest at Ihosy, 600 kms (about 400 miles) south of here, wrote to President Didier Ratsiraka condemning demonstrations, which he said had been held in his name.

Prime Minister Desire Rakotoarijaona, speaking after the riots, blamed the incidents on university problems localised in faculties here but which did not even affect the University of Madagascar.

Mr. Jaona, whose power base is in southwest Madagascar, was arrested here in November after organising a number of demonstrations in the south of the country calling for a government purge. In his letter he accused imperialist forces of distorting his demands. The strikes launched by the party that I lead were not intended to overthrow the regime nor to assissinate President Ratsiraka, he said.

Mr. Ratsiraka on January 16 called on Mr. Jaona to abandon politics or to return his party to the National Front, the country's sole authorised political grouping. Monima left the front in 1977.

Mr. Joan replied in a letter which has not been made public but observers said that it must have dealt with Monima's return to the front.

SOUTH AFRICA

DEFENSE CHIEF ON ARMS BUILDUP, TERRORIST ATTACKS

LD171146 Johannesburg International Service in English 0300 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] The South African minister of defense, General Malan, says there is an unprecedented buildup of conventional heavy armaments in southern Africa and should this be manned and used by communist proxy forces it could very rapidly lead to a conventional onslaught against South Africa. Speaking during the second reading debate on the part appropriation bill in the House of Assembly, General Malan said that the arms buildup could disturb the balance of power within a very short period.

General Malan said the recent attack on ANC bases in Mozambique has confirmed the belief that the Palestine Liberation Organization was also involved with terrorist activity in Maputo. One of the reasons why the attack on Matola, a Maputo suburb, had been launched was that the communists were trying to open a second front against South Africa, the first being South-West Africa. General Malan said bases in Matola had definitely been identified as the military planning and coordination headquarters for ANC's sabotage, action and planning against South Africa. The attack on Sasol was planned in Matola and launched from there. In addition labor unrest in South Africa had been planned in Matola and front organizations from South Africa had visited the headquarters regularly. The bases also served as liaison headquarters for the ANC with members of the banned South African Communist Party, Soviet representatives and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

General Malan said members of all population groups had taken part in the raid. He had received congratulatory messages from all population groups from all part of the country. He said the most important reason why South Africa's enemies had not yet succeeded in causing chaos in the country, as had been the case in Zimbabwe, Angola, Zambia and Mozambique, was that the security forces acted rapidly effectively and with high morale.